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Bisset's
POETIC SURVEY

ROUND

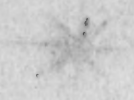
BIRMINGHAM.

PRICE 6s.

WITH PROOF PLATES 10s. 6d.—COLOURED ONE GUINEA;
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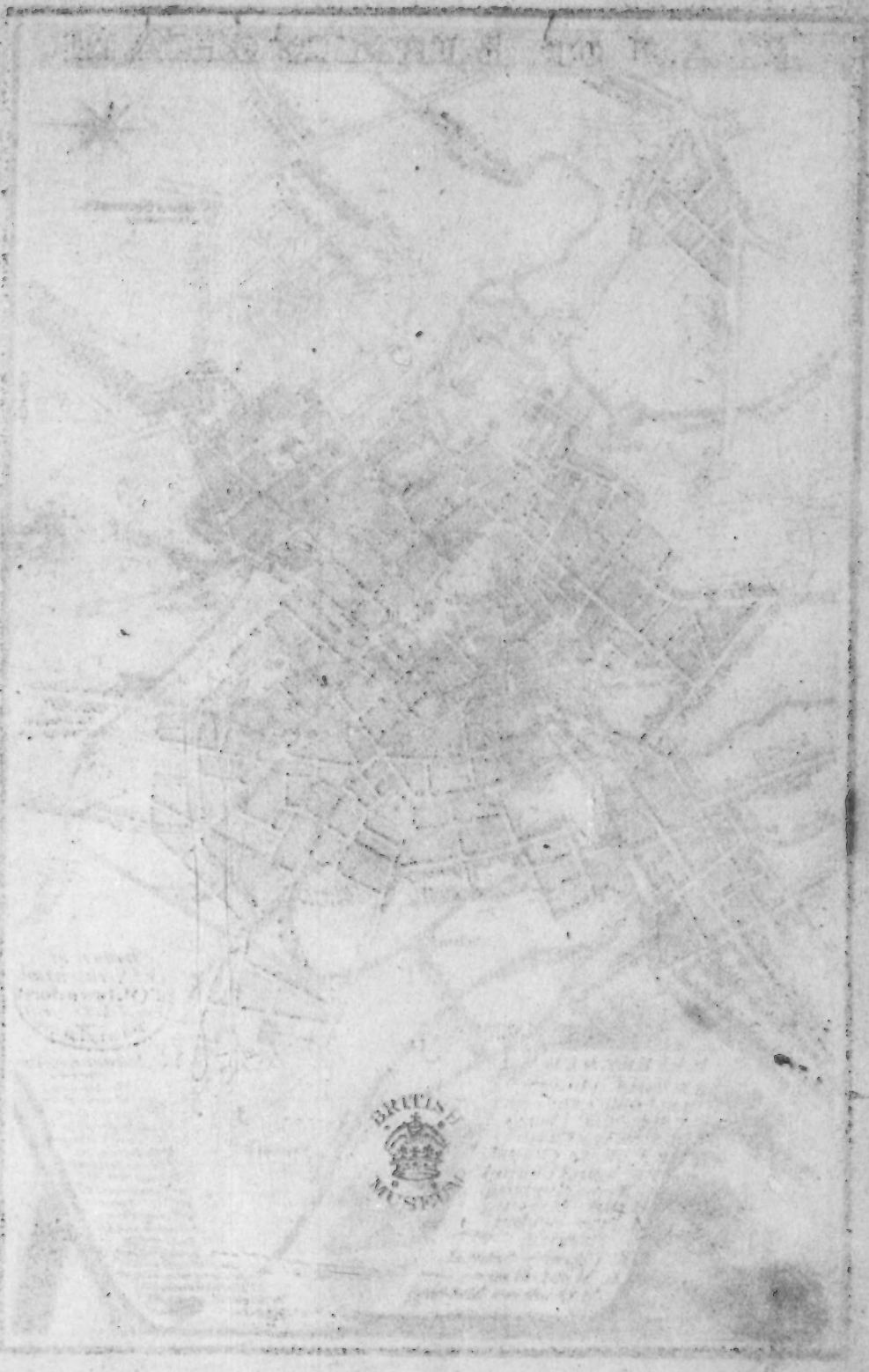


THE CITY OF LONDON AND THE DISTRICTS ADJACENT



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THE BRITISH MUSEUM
LONDON
Printed by
J. W. & J. S. G. & Co.
10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4

PLAN OF BIRMINGHAM



Engraved by J. Smith

Published by J. Ribbet, Museum Birmingham for his Magnificent Directory.

2

A

POETIC SURVEY

ROUND

BIRMINGHAM;

WITH

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DIFFERENT CURIOSITIES AND
MANUFACTORIES OF THE PLACE.

INTENDED AS A GUIDE TO STRANGERS.

By J. BISSET,

AUTHOR OF THE ORPHAN BOY, THE FLIGHTS OF FANCY, &c.

ACCOMPANIED BY

A MAGNIFICENT DIRECTORY;

WITH THE NAMES, PROFESSIONS, &c. SUPERBLY ENGRAVED
IN EMBLEMATIC PLATES.

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR;

BY SWINNEY AND HAWKINS, HIGH-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

SOLD BY T. HEPTINSTALL, HOLBORN, LONDON,

SWINNEY AND HAWKINS, BIRMINGHAM,

AND ALL OTHER BOOKSELLERS.





ADDRESS TO THE READER.

Ubique patriam, reminisce.

BELIEVE me, I think, some Apology's due,
Of course, *Candid Reader*, I'll make one to you,
Tho' *Critics* may cavil, for ever and ever,
I dread not their frown, nor solicit their favor.

Then, as for my rhyming—in sooth, you must know it,
I never pretended to be a great poet,

I write not for bread, and care little for pelf,
But scribble, to please my good FRIENDS and myself.

Too partial, perhaps, to my Writings, of late,
THEY urg'd me to publish—The ORPHAN BOY'S Fate;*
I did as they wish'd, and the constant demand
For the poor little Boy, whom all took by the hand,
So flatter'd my hopes, that, to mend his condition,†
I publish'd a *Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth*, Edition.

But, believe me, I am not so fond of the treasure
I gain by the work, as the ultimate pleasure
It gives me to find, both the high and the low
With sympathy melt, with compassion o'erflow;
And children, with sweet pearly drops in each eye,
Lament, whilst they read, his hard fate with a sigh.

* A Pathetic Tale—See *British Critic* for November 1799, Article 18.

† The ensuing Editions were published with Additions.

Engagements in bus'ness, fill most of my time,
 And little, indeed, can I trifle with rhyme;
 But having invented a mode grand and new,
 T' exhibit the BIRMINGHAM TRADES at a view,
 I thought a Description, in brief, of the place,
 Some STRANGERS might please, to my TOWNSMEN do grace,
 And, though it be told, in a plain, simple way,
 May act as a Guide, when they take a survey.

Eight hours every day my MUSEUM I 'tend,
 To wait on each Traveller, Stranger, or Friend.
 To design Works of Fancy, and Sketches to make,
 You'll allow in each day a few moments will take;
 Some scores of young Artists, with hearts full of joy,
 If trade's brisk or dull, thus have constant employ!
 And ev'ry day teems with some works rare and new,
 Which, GRATIS, to all, I exhibit to view.

Domestic affairs seldom trouble my head,
 (My partner, for life, in all those takes the lead;)
 But my children to teach, moral lessons impart,
 Of course, as a parent, lies nearest my heart:
 Some hours in a week, then, I hope you'll agree,
 At least, to that purpose, devoted should be.

Arrange ev'ry order, sum up each account,
 You'll, surely, allow, to some hours must amount;
 And tradesmen must own, that no time should be lost
 The ledger to keep, and the daybook to post;
 Correspondents to answer; each invoice o'erhaul,
 Be pleas'd, *Candid Reader*, to know—I do all!

Of time I've but little to spare for inditing,
 Let candour excuse, then, all faults in my writing.

MUSEUM, BIRMINGHAM,
 JAN. 1, 1800.

J. B.



INTRODUCTION.

Tantum modo incepto opus est: cætera res expedit.

SALLUST.

WHEN WORKS of GENIUS claim the votive lay,
Where shall the Muse her first devotion pay?
Or how, when once she takes the pen in hand,
Her course pursue? or where attempt to stand?

Methinks I hear dame Prudence, whisp'ring, say,
'Forego thy task, forbear the votive lay;
'A work like thine requires more skill and wit,
'To wiser heads the arduous task submit.'

To what she whispers, freely would I yield,
If any one, besides, would take the field.
Full many, equal to the theme, I find,
But none, to undertake it, seems inclin'd.
Oft have I urg'd, but urg'd, alas! in vain,
None, yet, has dar'd to 'tempt th' advent'rous strain.

The task be mine—If honor, forth, it calls,
That honor on the Arts, and Artists, falls;
I seek no praise, to plaudits lay no claim,
(My pen, I fear, will never raise my fame,)
But rest contented, hoping to produce
A work of novelty, and general use.

[VIII]

No high-flown metaphors shall lead the Muse
In mazy labyrinth, her way to lose,
Or soar, on eagle-wings, with vain pretence,
But, in plain language—thus the work commence.





A

POETIC SURVEY

ROUND

Birmingham, &c.

SUPPOSE some TRAV'LLERS, at an Inn set down,
And INNS¹ there are that grace this TRADING TOWN,
Where elegance and taste, at once, combine
With well stor'd larders—cellars stock'd with wine;
Clean well air'd rooms—for those who pass the night,
Each HOST, and HOSTESS, civil and polite.

High mett'l'd horses, every Inn can boast,
For those, in haste, who wish to travel post;
No chaises can be found more neat or clean,
From Dover cliffs to Tweed, or Gretna Green.

Should TRAVELLERS incline to spend a day,
And thro' this SEAT of ARTS should wish to stray,

¹ For a card of the principal Inns, &c. See plate F. in Magnificent Directory.

B

To point each devious path shall be my pride,
 Well pleas'd (if they'll accept) I'll be their GUIDE.
 Or, if th' adjacent spots, that greet the eye,
 Which, from St. Philip's Dome, with ease we 'spy,
 Will gratify their taste, I'll climb that height,
 And, from the CUPOLA, indulge their sight.

For strangers, freely, shall command my pow'r,
 To guide their footsteps, at a leisure hour;
 And, whilst surrounding objects they survey,
 Some knowledge of the diff'rent scenes convey.
 Tho' little of the kind I have to spare,
 Yet what I have, I'm sure, I'll freely share,
 And, any little child, by chance, you-meet,
 May name each PUBLIC BUILDING, and each STREET.
 Or any stranger guide, and easy tell
 The way to ev'ry Inn—or Grand Hotel.
 Of course I can, with ease, each Fact'ry show,
 And say—"There HANDSWORTH lies—or there SOHO."

Then, where yon Crofs salutes the azure skies,
 See PHILIP'S¹ noble dome majestic rise;
 My station there I'll fix—as suiting best,
 Then, faithful guide you—North, East, South, or West.

South-west the FOUNDRY,² and the BRASS-HOUSE³ stand,
 The CRESCENT,⁴ and the WHARFS,⁴ rich views command;

¹ St. Philip's is one of the handsomest Churches and Church-yards in England; it is situated on an eminence, and commands a beautiful and extensive Prospect. The walks around it are planted with trees. See plate H. of Magnificent Directory,

² Dearman and Francis's Iron Foundry, Magnificent Directory, plate U.

³ Works belonging to the Brass Company, plate L.

⁴ See plate G.

The MONUMENT,¹ near LADY-WOOD,² you'll view,
 There SPRINGFIELD'S³ seen—the COTTAGE⁴ lies perduc.
 Near yonder terrace walk, so clean and neat,
 There GILES and FORREST oft prepare a treat
 Of healthy bev'rage; *Porter*, stout and strong,
 To renovate old age, or cheer the young.

Beneath your eye—north-west, you'll view ST. PAUL'S,⁵
 And where, in yonder vale, the water falls,
 Where locks impede the current's rapid force,
 A grand CANAL⁶ there takes its devious course;
 In mazy windings round the town it bends
 Its circling course; at south-south-east it ends,
 Tho' various branches from its trunk extends.

Now further glance your eye beyond the town,
 Where purple Heaths⁷ appear, or dusky brown,
 Close by yon LAKE'S⁸ pellucid stream, behold
 A GOTHIC PILE,⁹ which seems some cent'ries old,
 VULCANIC FANCY there display'd her taste,
 And rear'd the fabrick on the barren waste;

1 Belonging to Parrot Noel, Esq.

2 Seat of Colonel Rann.

3 Seat of Thomas Barker, Esq.

4 Cottage of Content.

5 St. Paul's Chapel is a very neat stone building; there is an Altar Piece of St. Paul's Conversion, in stained glass, executed by the ingenious and celebrated Mr. Eginton, of Handsworth—(plate N.)—whose elegant works are so much admired at Oxford, Windsor, Fonthill, and various other parts of Great Britain and Ireland.

6 Birmingham Grand Canal.

7 Birmingham Heath.

8 Hockley Pool, a beautiful lake of water, plate A.

9 Hockley Abbey, the seat of Mr. Richard Ford, do.

The **FORGE** materials for the work provides,
 Rude cinders clothe the front—compose the sides.
 Where bogs and brakes, and marshy fens were seen,
 We now behold a turf-enamel'd green;
 It's hoary sage, withdrawn from toil and care,
 Both ease and solitude possesses there;
 The moss-clad turrets, ivy-clasp'd, o'er grown,
 Look as if **PEACE** had mark'd the spot her own.

On Yonder gentle slope, which shrubs adorn,
 Where grew, of late, "rank weeds," gorse, ling, and thorn,
 Now pendant woods, and shady groves are seen,
 And nature there assumes a nobler mien.
 There verdant lawns, cool grotts, and peaceful bow'rs,
 Luxuriant, now, are strew'd with sweetest flow'rs,
 Reflected by the lake, which spreads below,
 All Nature smiles around—there stands **SOHO**!¹

SOHO!²—where **GENIUS** and the **ARTS** preside,
EUROPA's wonder and **BRITANNIA**'s pride;
 Thy matchless works have rais'd Old England's fame,
 And future ages will record thy name;
 Each rival Nation shall to thee resign
 The **PALM** of **TASTE**, and own—'tis justly thine;
 Whilst **COMMERCE** shall to thee an altar raise,
 And infant **Genius** learn to lisp thy praise:
 Whilst Art and Science reign, they'll still proclaim
THINE! ever blended, with a **BOULTON**'s name.

¹ The seat of M. Boulton, Esq. plate A.

² Soho, about two miles from Birmingham, on the Walsall and Wolverhampton Road.

For a view of this elegant and splendid manufactory, see plate T.

Behold, due north, a stately building stands,¹
 Whose friendly portal wide to all expands.
 The poor, if sick or lame, there find relief,
 To calm their anguish or assuage their grief.
 By voluntary gifts the pile was rear'd,
 By voluntary aid each patient's cheer'd,
 And what must be acceptable to heav'n,
 Relief to strangers, there is freely giv'n;
 The Sons of GALEN anxious cares express,
 To ease their patients pain and sooth distress;
 Like good Samaritans, with pleasure toil,
 And freely pour their balsam, wine, and oil.

Near north by east, BARR BEACON² greets your eye,
 More to the right, you'll ASTON's³ turrets spy.
 BRITANNIA BREW'RY, nearer view, between,
 And o'er that CONIC TOW'R⁴ lies NECHELL'S GREEN.⁵

In that neat SQUARE, St. MARY's⁶ you'll behold,
 Whose vane is tipp'd and shines with burnish'd gold.
 Beyond it, ASTON JUNCTION's⁷ plainly seen,
 Where boats seem sailing o'er the verdant green;

¹ Birmingham General Hospital.—It was opened in 1779 for the reception of patients, since which period no less than 22,373 have happily experienced its bountiful effects.

² Near which is the seat of Joseph Scott, Esq.

³ Aston Hall, the seat of Heneage Legge, Esq.

⁴ Aston Glass House, the Manufactory of Messrs. Smart, Jones, and Co. See plate W. in Magnificent Directory.

⁵ At which are the Rolling and Thimble Mills, belonging to Mr. Rose.

⁶ St. Mary's Chapel, is a neat octagon brick building, with a beautiful stone spire.

⁷ Aston Junction Wharf, adjacent to the elegant and extensive Porter Brewery of Messrs. Clay, Barrs, Farley & Co.

The busy WHARFINGERS, intent on gain,
 Their vessels load—and ply the rattling crane.
 The boatmen sit at ease, their pipes they smook,
 Or, with each other, crack a harmless joke;
 Whilst some the sluices open—the waters flow
 In torrents, rushing, to the locks below,
 Where, by the hedge-row masts, in numbers glide,
 Boats, carts and coaches, passing side by side.
 Just o'er the UNION MILL—exact north east,
 Behold a pile, which marks the owner's taste;
 Where ELEGANCE and NEATNESS both unite,
 And DUDDESTON¹ in splendor greets your sight.
 On this side WASHWOOD HEATH² see BENNET'S-HILL,³
 And SALTLEY village—close by yonder mill.

More to the East are seen, majestic trees,
 That court the freshness of each gentle breeze;
 Whose spreading branches, thick, umbrageous fall,
 Retir'd amidst their foliage—lies VAUXHALL:⁴
 A rural spot, where tradesmen oft repair
 For relaxation, and to breathe fresh air:
 The beauties of the place attractive prove,
 To those who quiet and retirement love;
 There, freed from toils and labours of the day,
 Mechanics with their wives, or sweethearts, stray;

¹ Duddleston Hall, the seat of S. Galton, Esq. ² Residence of Jos. Sheldon, Esq.

³ The seat of W. Hutton, Esq. F.A.S.S. the ingenious Author of the History of Birmingham, &c. &c. &c.

⁴ Vauxhall is a pleasant place, about a mile from the centre of the town.—In summer it furnishes amusements similar to those of London, music, &c.

Or rosy children, sportive, trip along,
 To see rare Fire-works—or to hear a Song:
 For oft, in Summer, Music's secret pow'rs,
 Woos thousands to VAUXHALL, to pass their hours.

Next ASHTED¹ view—the Chapel's plainly seen,
 The BARRACKS for the troops, lie just between.
 BARTHOLOMEW'S² you'll see about due east,
 SMALL HEATH extends beyond, two miles at least.

Where curling eddies of black smoke ascends,
 STEAM-ENGINES³ wond'rous force and pow'r portends,
 A WATT and BOULTON'S Fame they sure must raise,
 Far, far beyond, my Muse's feeble praise;
 Tho' on a theme so grand she'd wish to shew,
 Respect to TALENTS and to GENIUS due.

These Locks, and Boats, and Bridges, now you'll view,
 Point out a fresh CANAL,⁴ and Junction new;
 Thence boats to WARWICK and to STRATFORD go,
 And thence—where silver THAMES and AVON flow.

Now, more beneath your eye, see, to the right,
 St. MARTIN'S⁵ beauteous spire attracts your sight.

¹ Ashted is a new built Hamlet adjoining the town; having a very neat Chapel; and the Barracks are situated there—about a mile from the centre of Birmingham.

² Chapel of St. Bartholomew.

³ Watt and Boulton's ingenious and celebrated Steam Engine, secured to them not only by a common Patent, but by Act of Parliament, plate Q.

⁴ The Warwick and Stratford Canal.

⁵ A very ancient Church, with one of the most beautiful Spires in the kingdom. This Church has an excellent peal of twelve bells, and a very musical set of chimes. For a distant view of the steeple, see Magnificent Directory, plate D.

Those Trees that wave below, by yonder MOAT, ¹
 The antient MANOR of our Lords denote ;
 The STREAMLET which beyond you now may see,
 For we've no RIVER else,—is call'd the REA. ²

South-east lies DERITEND and BORDLESLEY ³ rare,
 Both fam'd alike for good and 'special ware.
 CAMP-HILL ⁴ upon yon summit you'll espy,
 Beyond, FAIR HILL ⁵ and MOSELEY WAKE they lie.
 More south stands MOSELEY VILLAGE—just below,
 Where cedars, ash, and lofty poplars grow,
 Lies MOSELEY HALL, ⁶ near which is CANNON HILL,
 And, just beyond that CHURCH, ⁷ the PEBBLE MILL.

See NORTON ⁸ spire, upon yon rising ground,
 And num'rous villas lie dispers'd around ;
 Those hills beyond, are Bromsgrove Lickey nam'd,
 More for their barrenness, than beauty, fam'd.

MOOR GREEN, ⁹ and SELLY OAK, ¹⁰ lie south by west,
 In Nature's verdant liv'ry, gaily drest ;
 EDGBASTON'S ¹¹ rural beauties intervene,
 And fairest landscapes fill the chequer'd scene.

¹ Moat House, originally the seat of the Lords de Birmingham, now the Manufactory of Mr. Thomas Francis.

² A mere brook, serving to turn mills.

³ Two Manufacturing Hamlets adjoining Birmingham.—For a view of the Chapel, &c. see plate S.

⁴ For an account of a curious battle fought there in 1643—See Hutton's History of Birmingham.

⁵ Once the residence of the Rev. Dr. Priestley : also of the late Dr. Withering.

⁶ Seat of John Taylor, Esq. ⁷ Edgbaston Church. ⁸ King's Norton.

⁹ Seat of Thomas Russell, Esq. ¹⁰ Seat of James Bingham, Esq.

¹¹ Edgbaston Hall, seat of Lord Calthorpe.

Now, gently, to the right, your eyes incline,
 And mark where Barges float along yon line,¹
 Till disappearing, 'in the dark profound,'
 They sail some thousand yards beneath the ground;
 From thence emerging, swiftly on they glide,
 To reach the confines of the Severn's side.

What, tho' we boast no RIVER's genial source,
 And, to old Ocean, *rocks* impede our course,
 Impervious mountains, yielding to our skill,
 We pierce their centers, and the vallies fill;
 Direct their springs, construct a NAVIGATION,
 To waft our COMMERCE to each distant nation;
 And shew, where'er our PATTERNS are unfurl'd,
 For works of FANCY, we outstrip the WORLD.

The COAL and TIMBER WHARFS see just below,
 South-west stand ISLINGTON, and HAGLEY Row;
 Beyond, the RAVENHURST² and HARBORNE³ lie;
 South-west by west, you may the LIGHTWOODS⁴ spy;

¹ The Worcester and Birmingham Canal—no less celebrated for its breadth and deep cutting, than for its famous arched Tunnel near King's Norton, which is nearly two miles in length, sixteen feet wide, and eighteen feet high; but so perfectly straight, though it was begun at the extremities, as to be distinctly seen through. It is allowed to be one of the greatest curiosities of the kind in Great Britain, and redounds highly to the honour of that eminent engineer Cartwright. This tunnel is so extensive in the centre, where Barges pass and repass, that the Royal Arch Masons of Birmingham held a regular Chapter there in August 1795.

² Seat of J. Wigley, Esq.

³ Seat of Thomas Green, Esq.

⁴ Seat of Jonathan Grundy, Esq.

Three miles beyond exhibits to your view,
Those rural scenes¹ that SHENSTONE's pencil drew.

Around, in various parts, you'll RUINS trace,
Mementos sad, of RIOT and disgrace;
RELIGION o'er these relics drops a tear,
And SUPERSTITION shrinks, appal'd with fear;
The MUSE laments the scene, but draws a veil,
And, in oblivion, sinks the hapless tale.

Near LADY GROVE² again you may descry,
The tow'ring MONUMENT ascending high;
The BEAKS³ and SHIRELAND HALL,⁴ see to the right,
And, west-ward, SMETHWICK⁵ BRASS-WORKS meet your sight;
Where clouds of smoke in lofty columns rise,
And sable exhalations dim the skies.

¹ The Leasowes, a most delightful and enchanting spot, near Hales Owen—once the residence of Shenstone, the celebrated pastoral Poet; whose taste and genius form'd the place, from a rude uncultivated waste. It is about four miles from Hagley, the seat of Lord Lyttleton.

² Residence of Mr. Wm. Walker, merchant, Congreve-street.

³ Residence of Mr. J. Rabone, merchant.

⁴ Residence of Messrs. Cairns and Frears, merchants.

⁵ Very extensive Works, belonging to the Smethwick Brass Company, about three miles from Birmingham.—Messrs. Boulton and Watt, have erected there a complete Iron Foundry, in which the power of their steam engines is applied to the boring of cylinders, pumps, &c. to drilling, turning, or blowing smelting furnaces, and whatever tends to abridge human labour. The following facts shew the wonderful powers of their engines; one bushel of coals applied to one of them, will raise 30,000,000 of pounds weight of water one foot high, 3,000,000 ten feet high, or the like proportion to any given height. For a particular account of these stupendous works, see notes to Dr. Darwin's celebrated Botanic Garden.—About two miles on this side Smethwick, are the Glass Works of Mr. John Hawker, for a view of which, see plate Q in Magnificent Directory.

Our circuit now complete, around the TOWN,
 Ere from this eminence we venture down,
 Be pleas'd to look once more t'ward WINSON GREEN,¹
 Where glittering spears, and MARTIAL troops, are seen,
 Where splendid BANNERS, BRITAIN'S ARMS display,
 And VOLUNTEERS are rang'd in fair array.

When dangers² threat'ned NEPTUNE'S favourite ISLE,
 Ere BRITISH bulwarks thunder'd off the NILE,³
 A warlike band arose, a valiant host,
 To guard the fam'd BRITANNIA'S sea-girt coast;
 INTERIOR COUNTIES, fir'd with ardent zeal,
 Pour'd forth their sons, to guard the Common-weal;
 ASSOCIATED CORPS, join'd HEART and HAND,
 And BIRMINGHAM produc'd a chosen band,
 Of HORSE⁴ and FOOT,⁵—to aid their Country's cause,
 Protect their KING, their LIBERTY, and LAWS.
 These are the troops, in training, now you view,
 The HORSEMEN, SCARLET wear, the FOOT, TRUE BLUE.

1 Mr. Pickering's academy, near Birmingham Heath.

2 When there was a rumour of an intended invasion.

3 Alluding to Nelson's brilliant victory. Aug. 1, 1798.

4 The Loyal Birmingham Light Horse Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Pearson.

5 The Birmingham Loyal Association, Lord Brooke, Colonel Commandant.

6 The above respectable corps are composed of Gentlemen of the town, who furnish themselves, at their own expence, with elegant cloathing, arms, and accoutrements. They amount to upwards of 500 strong, and have evinced great zeal and attention to the interests of the town. The alacrity and readiness of the Association to serve in cases of emergency, or to assist in extinguishing fires and protecting property, has often, deservedly, call'd forth the thanks and approbation of the inhabitants.

Now, soft descending, from this height, we'll trace
 The different MANUFACT'RIES of the place;
 But works so various BIRMINGHAM displays,
 To view them all, would take some length of days.
 Therefore each courteous READER, STRANGER, FRIEND,
 Back to your Inn, be pleas'd your way to bend;
 T' amuse you there, I'll do the best I'm able,
 And give a brief DESCRIPTION—in a FABLE.

It was originally the Author's intention to annex "TONY LUMPKIN'S Ramble thro' BIRMINGHAM," written for, and spoken by Mr. MUNDEN, at the Theatre last Season, and received with such unbounded applause:—But as the RAMBLE of the Gods contains a more circumstantial account of the different MANUFACTORIES, &c. he presumes it will be more acceptable to the Public—to whom he submits it, with all due deference.





RAMBLE OF THE GODS

THROUGH
BIRMINGHAM.

A TALE.

"Eranti, passimque oculos per cuncta ferenti."

SOMETIME ago, I'm told, a rambling fit
Seiz'd on APOLLO, God of Song and Wit;
He spoke to MERCURY, and ask'd if he
To Earth a while would bear him company?
' With all my heart,' said he, ' I long to know,
' And see what's passing in the world below.
' Then, if you please, I'll lead for you the way :'
For HERMES oft conducts the GODS, they say.

BACCHUS, who heard it, whisper'd, thro' the sky,
That soon they meant to quit the realms on high,
Propos'd that their example he might follow,
Which was with joy accepted by APOLLO.

THEY went, and leave of absence ask'd of JOVE,
Then sallied gaily forth from REALMS ABOVE.

7

TO BRITAIN'S ISLE, with speed, they bent their flight,
 And lighted HERE,¹ just on the edge of night;
 IMMORTAL forms they veil'd in dark disguise,
 And seem'd like mortal men, to mortal eyes.

Old VULCAN's Smithy soon, with ease, they found,
 Directed by the thund'ring anvil's sound;
 To see the limping God they straight repair,
 Secure of finding friendly welcome there.
 The moment they approach'd, old VULCAN knew
 His GODLIKE guests, and then to meet them flew;
 His hammer thrown aside, he LIMP'D apace,
 Alternate each he clasp'd, in close embrace;
 Straight to his CABIN then the GODS he led
 To pass the night, and take a friendly bed.
 The best of ev'ry sort was order'd out,
 RUM, BRANDY, WINE, with ALE and PORTER stout;
 O'erjoy'd, on earth, to see such worthy friends,
 The sparkling glafs he round the table sends.

They talk'd of former times, they sang and laugh'd,
 They smok'd, crack'd jokes, and friendly bumpers quaff'd;
 As Nectar, BACCHUS prais'd the amber ale,
 APOLLO sang, and HERMES told a tale.
 The HOST well pleas'd, the guests quite blythe and gay,
 In mirth and glee the ev'ning pass'd away.

The GODS now told their errand—VULCAN smil'd—
 With various anecdotes the time beguil'd;

¹ In Birmingham.

And 'vow'd, next day, if they would walk at leisure,
'That he'd be happy to attend their pleasure.'

They ask'd about the POLICE¹ of the place,
And much he wish'd to do his Townsmen grace;
For in th' administration of the laws,
Both equity and justice judge each cause.²

He told them, 'that the Officers were few,
'Of CONSTABLES and BAILIFFS,³ each but two:
'The latter privileg'd are, ev'ry year,
'To treat their friends and neighbours with good cheer;
'And those invited to each CIVIC FEAST,
'Cost HIM, who treats, one hundred pounds at least.'

He said, 'Inferior Courts sat once a week,
'For those who petty debts were forc'd to seek;

¹ In 1789, the Author had the honor, in conjunction with George Simcox, Esq. (now one of our worthy Magistrates), and several Gentlemen in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, of forming the first Committee, and establishing a Nightly Patrole in that district, for preserving the peace, and securing the property of the inhabitants. The laws and regulations were approved of and soon after adopted throughout the town, which was afterwards divided into 13 districts, each governed by a Committee of their own. The utility and advantages resulting from these Institutions, and the good order and regularity which has since prevailed, in such districts where the Patrole is continued, has fully evinced their beneficial effects; and as one of the Committee always attends the Patrole, in their nocturnal perambulations, every Member of the Society cheerfully obeys the summons of the Night Constable, whenever it comes to his turn.

² Our Magistrates, much to their honor, sit at the Public Office a few hours every day for the dispatch of business.

³ The High and Low Bailiffs, two Constables, and a Headborough, are chosen annually from the most respectable inhabitants of the town.

. No salary or emolument is annex'd to the offices in Birmingham!

‘ Procrastination there, is seldom known,
 ‘ The Judges soon award each one his own.’
 And, tho’ they seem’d to wonder, VULCAN swore,
 ‘ They oft determin’d thirty suits ¹ an hour.’

Of sim’lar COURTS we’ve many in the land,
 Whose laws, like those of MEDES and PERSIANS, stand
 For when the JUDGES set their hand or seal,
 From their decision, there is no appeal.

‘ Th’ INHABITANTS,’ he said, ‘ take old and young,
 ‘ Might then amount to EIGHTY THOUSAND strong.
 ‘ Of CHURCHES ² there are Two, of CHAPELS Four,
 ‘ And of DISSENTING MEETINGS near a score.’

Of Public Charities we have our share,
 To which all freely give, who ought can spare;
 For independent of the Levies ³ clear,
 Which net, near THIRTY THOUSAND POUNDS per year,
 There’s various Institutions, ⁴ where, indeed,
 Relief’s afforded to the poor in need,
 Who oft, with grateful hearts, those gifts receive,
 Which lib’ral donors oft so freely give.

¹ The Court of Requests, for the recovery of any sum under 40s.—The Author has often known above 100 causes determined in less than three hours.

² St. Martin’s and St. Philip’s Churches. The Chapels of St. Bartholomew, St. Mary, St. Paul, and St. John, in Deritend.

³ Levies for the Poor are collected about eighteen times per annum, at the rate of 6d. in the pound each levy, on all houses above six pounds.

⁴ The General Hospital, the Dispensary, the Blue Coat Charity School, and one belonging to the Dissenting Meetings, all supported by Voluntary Contributions; also the Benevolent Society, and Subscriptions for Bread, Coals, Soup, &c. &c. which are distributed amongst the lower order of the people, every week, during the winter.

Of PUBLIC PLACES for AMUSEMENT, we
 Can boast of little more than TWO or THREE :¹
 Of LIBRARIES rare,² we number two,
 One call'd the OLD, the other styl'd the NEW.
 We've MAILS and COACHES, HOURLY setting out
 For ev'ry TOWN and COUNTY round about,
 And safe conveyance had to ev'ry part,³
 For EAST, WEST, NORTH and SOUTH, they daily start.

Of handsome HACKNEY COACHES w^eve our share,
 But yet no Act to regulate their fare ;
 Of course the COACHMEN charge whate'er they please,
 Tho' few are found extorting extra fees ;
 You'll find them steady fellows, and quite willing,
 To drive you several streets' length for a shilling ;

1 The Theatre, the Bowling Greens, &c. at Vauxhall, the Apollo in Deritend, and one near the Crescent ; there are also Public Concerts and Assemblies, every fortnight at the Hotel, during the winter.—The THEATRE is a noble structure, and is reckoned, for its size, one of the handsomest in Great Britain : it is open during four months in the summer, viz. June, July, August, and September, and the most eminent London and Provincial Performers are usually engaged for the season. (The machinery and scenery are excellent, and the Manager spirited and attentive. We formerly had two Theatres ; that in King-street is converted into a Dissenting Chapel.—The New-street Theatre was burnt by accident in 1792, and the present superb building rose, like a Phoenix, from its ashes : for a view of which see Magnificent Directory, plate C.

2 There are two excellent Libraries, the first established in 1779—the latter in 1796, to which any stranger may be introduced by a subscriber.

3 London Coaches start, daily, from the Castle, the Dog, the George, Saracen's Head, the Rose and Swan Inns, &c. and Mails every day from some of the above, for Bristol, Shrewsbury, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, &c. The London Mail sets off every afternoon, from the Dog Inn, exactly at three o'clock, and the Bristol, at five, from the Castle.

TWO SHILLINGS TO VAUXHALL's their usual fare,
 OR EIGHTEEN-PENCE the CRESCENT or the SQUARE;¹
 But those who visit HANDSWORTH² or SOHO,
 Had better make a bargain, ere they go.

OF BANKS we've FOUR,³—than which none in the land
 Upon a steadier, firmer basis stand.
 When STOCKS were low, and discount's rapid force,
 Had almost drain'd OLD ABR'AM's grand resource,
 The Credit of our BANKERS firmly stood,
 As sterling GOLD, their NOTES were full as good,
 Nor e'er were question'd—all throughout the land.
 The Reason's plain—They pay 'UPON DEMAND.'

Old Vulcan said, 'Of one thing he was sure,
 'The atmosphere we breathe is clear and pure;
 'The num'rous FIRES around,' he said, 'bid fair,
 'T' expel all VAPOURS, purify the AIR:
 'And though, in some things, Doctors differ still,
 'To controvert that truth, there's none that will.'

Our STREETS are spacious, BUILDINGS neat and clean,
 As in a TRADING TOWN were ever seen,
 And FIFTEEN THOUSAND HOUSES here you'll find,
 With thrice TEN THOUSAND SHOPS arrang'd behind.

¹ St. Paul's Square.—N. B. Since corn has been so very high, the Author finds the Fares have been advanced to 2s.

² A very handsome village about half a mile beyond SOHO, surrounded by Gentlemen's seats.

³ Three of the Banks have honored the Author with their Firms for his Magnificent Directory. See plate A.

The STREETS are pav'd, 'tis true, but all the stones
 Are set the wrong way up, in shape of cones,
 And STRANGERS limp along the best pav'd street,
 As if parch'd peas were strew'd beneath their feet ;
 Whilst custom makes the NATIVES scarcely feel
 Sharp pointed pebbles¹ prefs the toe or heel.

Of ANNUAL FAIRS, indeed, we have but few,
 Yet rest well satisfy'd with only two ;²
 But those who favourite dainties often seek,
 Will find there are, three MARKETS every week ;
 And Epicureans, then, may have their wish,
 And tho' an inland place, find good fresh fish ;
 For many schemes suggested, have been tried,
 To have our markets constantly supplied
 With ev'ry thing that's good, and cheap in reason,
 Fruit, Fish or Fowl, and rarities in season :³
 And as for Meat, each Butcher in his station,
 Will safely swear, ' No better's in the Nation.'

¹ The following authentic anecdote will shew how far custom reconciles people, to what others imagine inconveniencies: An Inhabitant of Birmingham, having been a journey of pleasure up to London, was asked, on his return, how he liked the place? He said, ' he was much pleased with every thing but the PAVEMENT, for the stones were all so SMOOTH there was no foot-hold.'

² The annual Fairs are held the Thursday in Whitsuntide week and the two following days; the second on Michaelmas day, unless it falls on a Sunday, in which case it is held on the Monday and two following days. The latter is a very great Onion Fair; and in 1778, the toll was paid for 84 waggon loads.

³ Our Markets every week are well supplied: fruit of all kinds, and excellent vegetables, are brought from the adjacent counties. Fine Severn salmon from the West, and all kind of fish from E. N. & S. coasts, &c.

Of INNS and PUBLIC HOUSES there are plenty,
 To gueſts at which you'll double TEN times TWENTY :
 When that is done, you then may take FOUR SCORE,
 To make the number near, add TWENTY more.

'What!' cry'd APOLLO, 'Five and twenty ſcore,'

When VULCAN thus reply'd,—'Aye, many more.'

Now HERMES ſeem'd ſurpris'd, and BACCHUS ſtar'd,
 And thought OLYMPUS could not be compar'd,
 Nor HYBLA ſweet, or NECTAR ſo divine,
 To what he found below, Good ALE¹ and WINE :
 The GODS quaff'd flowing bumpers, with true zeſt,
 To VULCAN toaſted—Then retir'd to reſt.

Next day THEY rambl'd round the TOWN, and ſwore,

'That ſuch a place they never ſaw before.'

THEY viſited our WHARFS,² and, wond'ring, found

Some thouſand tons of COAL pil'd on the ground,

And ſcores of boats, in length full ſixty feet,

With loads of mineral fuel, quite replete ;

Whilst carts, and country waggons, fill'd each ſpace,

And loaded teams ſtood rang'd around the place.

The GODS beheld the whole with great ſurpriſe,

And ask'd, 'from whence we gain'd ſuch large ſupplies?'

For, tho' well vers'd in all EMPYREAL ſcenes,

THEY here were poſ'd, to find our 'Ways and Means.'—

¹ Birmingham is famed for fine ale.

² For Navigation Office and Coal Wharf, ſee letter y, in the Plan of Birmingham.

It is a very neat building, and weighing machines are under each gate-way.

When satisfy'd '—then told, some hundred ton
 Would be consum'd that day, ere setting sun,
 In BIRMINGHAM alone,—amaz'd THEY stood,
 And ev'ry pile, with admiration, view'd.

They next, attracted by the vivid gleams,
 Saw MARCASITES dissolve in liquid streams,²
 And stubborn ORES expand, and smelting, flow
 By strength of Calefaction, from below.

To see the PIN-works then, the GODS repair,
 Nor wonder'd left at what they met with there,
 To find it was in any mortal's pow'r,
 To POINT, and CUT, twelve thousand PINS an hour;³
 And fifty thousand HEADS their shapes acquire,
 In half that time, spun round elastic wire.

The different BUTTON-works, they next review,
 And seem'd well pleas'd with sights so rare and new:
 The various ORES they saw rich hues impart,
 Assuming different shapes, by skilful art;
 And beauteous metals polish'd charms display,
 In radiant colours, rang'd in fair array;

- 1 The same Canal by which we export our goods by way of Liverpool, Hull, &c. serves to supply us with coal from the pits in Staffordshire, pig Iron, &c. The boats are long and narrow, and carry from 25 to 50 tons: they are drawn by a single horse, and go at the rate of about two miles an hour.
- 2 At Dearman and Francis's Eagle Cast Iron Foundry, Broad-street. Their newly invented Culinary Utensils, bid fair to rival every thing of the kind hitherto manufactured in cast iron. For a view of the works, see plate U.
- 3 The Author went to Mr. Phipson's Manufactory, to ascertain how many pin heads could be spun in a short space of time; when he saw a boy, about twelve years of age, form 7200, in three minutes.

The process of the GILDING look'd well o'er,
 Yet scarce could tell RICH GILT, from SEMILORE;¹
 Each STAMP, each LATHE, and PRESS² THEY careful scann'd,
 Then went to see the PAPER TRAYS JAPANN'D;
 Examin'd nicely ev'ry curious part,
 And much admir'd th' improvements of the ART.³

These seen, they next resolv'd with speed to go,
 To visit BOULTON'S, at the great SOHO,
 The wonders of that magic place explore,
 And with attention, view its beauties o'er.

They went—but here description fails, I ween,
 To tell you half the curious works there seen.
 Suffice it then, such scenes were there display'd,
 The GODS, with rapture fraught, the whole survey'd;
 Their NAMES they wrote, and saw, with great surprise,
 FAC SIMILES⁴ that moment, strike their eyes;
 Whilst at the MINT, th' invention of the MILL,⁵
 Seem'd as if Coin was form'd by magic skill.

¹ A species of Brass, form'd by means of exposing Copper to Zink, in a state of evaporation by heat, which bears an excellent polish, and when finish'd has a great resemblance to gold.

² For a sketch of a Stamp Piercing Press, Lathe, &c. see Magnificent Directory, plate R, with a list of several eminent Button-makers.

³ H. Clay, Esq. obtained a Patent for his admired improvements in the art of Japanning on Paper, &c. For a list of Manufacturers, see plate O.

⁴ From Watt and Company's Patent Copying Machine.

⁵ The Coining Mill has been much improved since it was first erected, in 1788; it is adapted to work eight machines, and each is capable of striking from seventy to eighty-four pieces per minute, the size of a guinea; which is equal to between 30,000 and 40,000 per hour; and at the same blow, which strikes the face and reverse, the edge of the piece is also struck either plain or with an inscription. See elegant Coins now in circulation.

But when the ponderous ENGINES¹ were survey'd—
 They ev'ry tribute due to merit paid:
 Then, with reluctance, forc'd themselves away,
 Resolv'd to see all that they could by day.

At HANDSWORTH, by intrinsic worth impell'd,
 They stopp'd, and EGINTON'S Stain'd Glafs beheld,
 With admiration saw the Artist trace,
 A beauteous SERAPH, or an ANGEL'S face.

Now back to BIRMINGHAM, with speed they hie,
 Exploring ev'ry place, with curious eye.
 The GODS, at SWINNEY'S² FOUNDRY, stood amaz'd,
 And on each curious TYPE and LETTER gaz'd;
 Then the MUSEUM view'd!

* * * * *

- ¹ Amongst the various applications of the steam engine, that of Coining seems to be of considerable importance, as, by its power, all the operations are concentrated on the same spot; such as rolling the cakes of copper into sheets. 2dly. Fine rolling the same cold, in steel polish'd rollers. 3dly, Cutting out the blank pieces of coin, which is done with greater ease and facility by girls, than could possibly be done by strong men. It also assists in shaking the coin in bags, and works a number of coining machines with greater rapidity and exactness, by a few boys, than could be done by men, without endangering their fingers; as the machine itself lays the blanks upon the die, perfectly concentric with it, and, when struck, displaces one piece and replaces another. See Shaw's Hist. of Staffordshire.
- ² This useful Branch of the Typographic Art, immediately on the demise of the late celebrated Baskerville, was resumed, and is now continued, with persevering industry and success, by Mr. Swinney, whose elegant Specimens of Printing, add celebrity to the other manufactures of this Emporium of the Arts.

Next, at the GUN WORKS, THEY, surpris'd, beheld
 The lusty Cyclops musket barrels weld;
 Whilst peals, like rattling thunder, shook the roof,
 When nit'rous powers proclaim'd them STANDARD¹ Proof.
 The dread explosions, wing'd by echos round,
 Made GODS themselves to startle at the sound.

To see the BUCKLE WORKS they next repair'd,
 'Twas ere that Fancy Trade was so impair'd;
 When all the Makers had a full employ,
 Which made some thousand hearts to dance for joy;
 For BUCKLES then, by high and low were wore,
 Nor were, by SPRIGS of FASHION, deem'd 'a BORE.'²
 A fatal epithet, however glofs'd,
 For thousands, by that WORD, their bread have lost.

¹ In 1796, His Majesty's Honorable Board of Ordnance, in order to save time, and get more Arms, established an Ordnance Office here, for proving Musket Barrels, and viewing materials for them in setting up; experienced View Masters were sent down from the Tower; and Government must be aware of the amazing advantages accruing to the State by having them proved on the spot; as formerly all were sent up to London for that purpose. The iron and fuel, and every material for welding Gun Barrels being had in the neighbourhood, BIRMINGHAM, of course, must be able to produce excellent Muskets, and at a cheaper rate than any other place in the kingdom. There are, upon an average, 4200 muskets examined and set up every Month at the Ordnance Office for the use of Government, exclusive of those proved and finished by the rest of the eminent Gun-makers in Birmingham, for home consumption and for exportation. See plate E, Magnificent Directory, for those Gentlemen who sent their Names for insertion.

² BORE, is a SUBLIME epithet, used by the more enlightened EREMERALS of the animal creation, to express any thing UNFASHIONABLE, in contradistinction to the superlative TIPPY, which signifies all that is elegant and in the TON. *Sic transit gloria Mundi!*

Ingenious engines prov'd mechanic pow'rs,
 And happy pass'd the months, weeks, days and hours ;
 ' The Toy Shop of the World,' then rear'd its crest,
 Whilst hope and joy, alternate, fill'd each breast.

Inventions curious, various kinds of Toys,¹
 Then occupied the time of men and boys,
 And blooming girls, at work, were often seen,
 That twice their ages join'd, was scarce fifteen,
 Sent by their parents out, their bread to seek,²
 Who'd earn, perhaps, some shillings in a week ;
 And many women, too, you then might see,
 With children on the lap, or round the knee,
 An honest livelihood intent to gain,
 And their sweet INFANT RACE, help to maintain.
 Charm'd with the sight, the Gods the whole review'd,
 And seem'd, with admiration, quite subdu'd.

To see each warlike weapon THEY resort,³
 And view'd the polish'd blade, of various sort,
 The SCIMETER, the SWORD, the FAULCHION bright,
 Form'd for the dreadful horrors of the fight ;
 Sharp pointed POIGNARDS, and the SABRE keen,
 SPIKES, SPEARS and LANCES, were in thousands seen.

¹ For Toy Makers, see plate M, in Magnificent Directory.

² Children were often sent out when five years of age to various shops, and it was a melancholy circumstance to reflect, that the means for their education were thus neglected ; but by the salutary establishment of the Sunday Schools, some thousands now have an opportunity of learning both to read and write ; while every attention is paid to their morals.

³ For a list of eminent Sword Cutlers, &c. see plate K, in Magnificent Directory.

From thence THEY went, well satisfy'd away,
To see the WHIP¹ ingenious engines play;
Then LLOYD's fam'd mill, for slitting IRON RODS,²
Was honor'd by the presence of the GODS.

To WHITMORE's, then, intent on earth to scan
The wond'rous works of still more wond'rous man,
THEY next resorted; and HYDRAULICS³ new,
MACHINES⁴ and ROLLING-MILLS⁵ with pleasure view;
Whilst sturdy CYCLOPS, ANVILS⁶ rang'd around,
With thund'ring hammers, made the air resound.

Ten thousand nameless beauties strike the eye,
Form'd from the yielding WAX, or plastic DIE,
Whilst from the copper, or the canvas, start,
Ten thousand beauties of the GRAPHIC ART;
Of ARTISTS rare, who has not heard the fame
Of * * 's PORTRAITS, or of * * 's GAME;
Of * * 's MEDALS, Silver, Gold or Brass,
Which DACIER's, or the Antients, far surpass!

- 1 There are several of these ingenious manufactories in town, where vast quantities of elegant whips are made for exportation and home consumption. The works are well worthy the attention and inspection of strangers; for some of the makers' names, see plates in Magnificent Directory. C, I, Q.
- 2 A very ingenious and curious process for slitting Iron Bars into Rods for Nailors, &c.
- 3 New invented Pumps, &c. and a Canal Lock which raises up one vessel and lowers another without loss of water.
- 4 Machines upon a new construction for weighing barges, boats and waggons, &c. and Patent Machines for Mashing Malt without manual labour.
- 5 For a sketch of a rolling or flattening mill, see Mr. Whitmore's card in Magnificent Directory. Plate U.
- 6 For Anvil, Vice, Hammer and Scale Beam Makers, &c. see plate I.

From Articles minute, to pond'rous ORES,
 The ROYAL PATENT, here, is found in scores;
 Huge Engines, I have seen, with ease; compress
 Three trufs of hay, in half a span,¹ nay less;
 With patent WHEELS,² which malt so quickly mashes;
 Spring LATCHETS³ for the shoes, and patent SASHES,⁴
 Ingenious SNUFFERS,⁵ which some ign'rant elves,
 At first, suppos'd, were made to act themselves;
 Grand warlike WEAPONS,⁶ various works of art,
 MACHÉE of paper,⁷ and the Patent CART:⁸
 Improvements in the mode of making Locks,⁹
 Proof Leather HELMETS¹⁰ too, and Patent COCKS;¹¹
 Spring steps for COACHES,¹² NEEDLES,¹³ 'mongst the rest,
 And, to detect Base Coin, the Patent TEST.¹⁴

1 A massy Machine, made by Mr. Whitmore, to extract Liquorice juice from the roots, which compressed three trufs of hay in the space of three inches.

2 A very ingenious Machine, see note 4, page 34.

3 Messrs. Boulton and Smith's, see plate T, Magnificent Directory.

4 Messrs. Jordan and Co.'s Patent Metal Window Sashes.

5 Gill's SELF acting Snuffers.

6 Several, invented and improved by the eminent Sword Cutlers, see plate K.

7 See Note 2, page 30.

8 & 9 For a sketch of Mr. Clay's Patent Cart, and improved double Lock for Canals, see plate J, in Mag. Direct.

10 For resisting wet or heat, see plates C, and K, do.

11 Mr. E. Thomason's Patent Cocks for Gun and Pistol Locks, see plate X, Magnificent Directory. Also, a view of his Manufactory.

12 Ditto Steps for Carriages, which raise up and let down by the opening and shutting of the Carriage Door, see plate do.

13 Sheward's —.

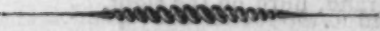
14 A Liquid, invented by the ingenious Mr. Alston, for detecting base silver.

The Gods, well pleas'd, with all THEY saw on Earth,
 Where works of genius daily had New Birth,
 Breath'd forth a pray'r that soon a lasting Peace,
 Might crown this Isle, and Commerce still increase;
 Then to their lib'ral Host's, THEY back repair'd,
 And with OLD VULCAN friendly bumpers shar'd;
 Thence re-ascended to the realms above,
 And with their RAMBLES oft divert OLD JOVE.





POSTSCRIPT.



THE various beauties which from Labor spring,
The willing muse, in artless verse, would sing :
But nobler motives lay a stronger claim,
Important duties * damp the Muse's flame,
Or ' She'd a tale unfold !'

What beauteous works from ORES refin'd arise,
To grace the HEAD and NECK, and charm the eyes ;
To grace the HANDS, and FEET, the COAT, and VEST,
And ornament our Belles and Beaux, full-drest ;
The orient PEARLS, and blazing DIAMONDS, feel
Their lustre, oft, outvied by polish'd STEEL.

Witness each sparkling PLUME and radiant ZONE,
Some years ago, that grac'd Britannia's throne ;
The EPAULETS, the STAR the PRINCE then wore,
And full plum'd CREST, that GEORGE AUGUSTUS bore ;†
Then tens of thousands hail'd the jocund day,
And taste and fashion, bore the palm away.

* See the Apology.

† These elegant ornaments were entirely compos'd of fine steel beads.

Then BUCKLES grac'd each shoe—*then* fancy reign'd,
 And honors crown'd the laurels labor gain'd:
 O! BIRMINGHAM then triumph'd—COMMERCE smil'd,
 And Vulcan's sons from morn till ev'ning toil'd:
Then whirling LATHES, and STAMPS' tremendous sound,
 With tinkling HAMMERS, were in concert found;
 Illuminations, grand, burst on the sight,
 When workmens' lamps illum'd each shop at night.
 THEN children carol'd songs, devoid of guile,
 Responsive to the sound of forge or file.
 THEN Art and Science, hand in hand were found,
 And Vulcan seem'd to toil on magic ground.

O sad reverse—how many rue the day,
 Since fickle FASHION wrought a TRADE's decay?
 A FANCY TRADE—from whence the poor deriv'd
 A constant bread—and thousands daily thrive'd.

Let not the GREAT, who now in splendor roll,
 On ARTS fastidious gaze, with narrow soul:
 O let not Av'rice sway the nobler mind!
 To works of Art and Genius be not blind:
 The poor look up, with confidence, to you,
 Then grant to modest worth whate'er is due.

How many Men of Talents oft you'll meet,
 With pensive looks, bare clothes and shoeless feet,
 Who ne'er knew penury till trade grew dead,
 Forlorn and wretched, pining now for bread:
 How many Wives, alas, their Husbands mourn,
 How many Children, pant their Sires' return;

Nor Wives nor Children shall behold them more ;
 They've breath'd, perhaps, their last on ***'s shore,
 Or cross th' Atlantic, willing victims led,
 In field of battle, unlamented, bled.

Oh! ruthless WAR, infuriate—madd'ning sense,
 The Poor Man's scourge, Ambition's vain Pretence,
 O sheath thy faulchion, let rude clamors cease,
 O let us, once again, enjoy sweet Peace!
 Then Trade and Commerce will again revive,
 And BIRMINGHAM, once more, be seen alive.

O! could I say, with truth, each Lib'ral Art,
 Alike was patroniz'd in ev'ry part ;
 O! could I say that such was HERE the case,
 It would, with pleasure, this my essay grace ;
 But truth must ever guide my humble strain,
 To praise, 'twould grateful be, to censure, pain ;
 My wish alone, is for the gen'ral weal,
 And for the helpless poor I would appeal :

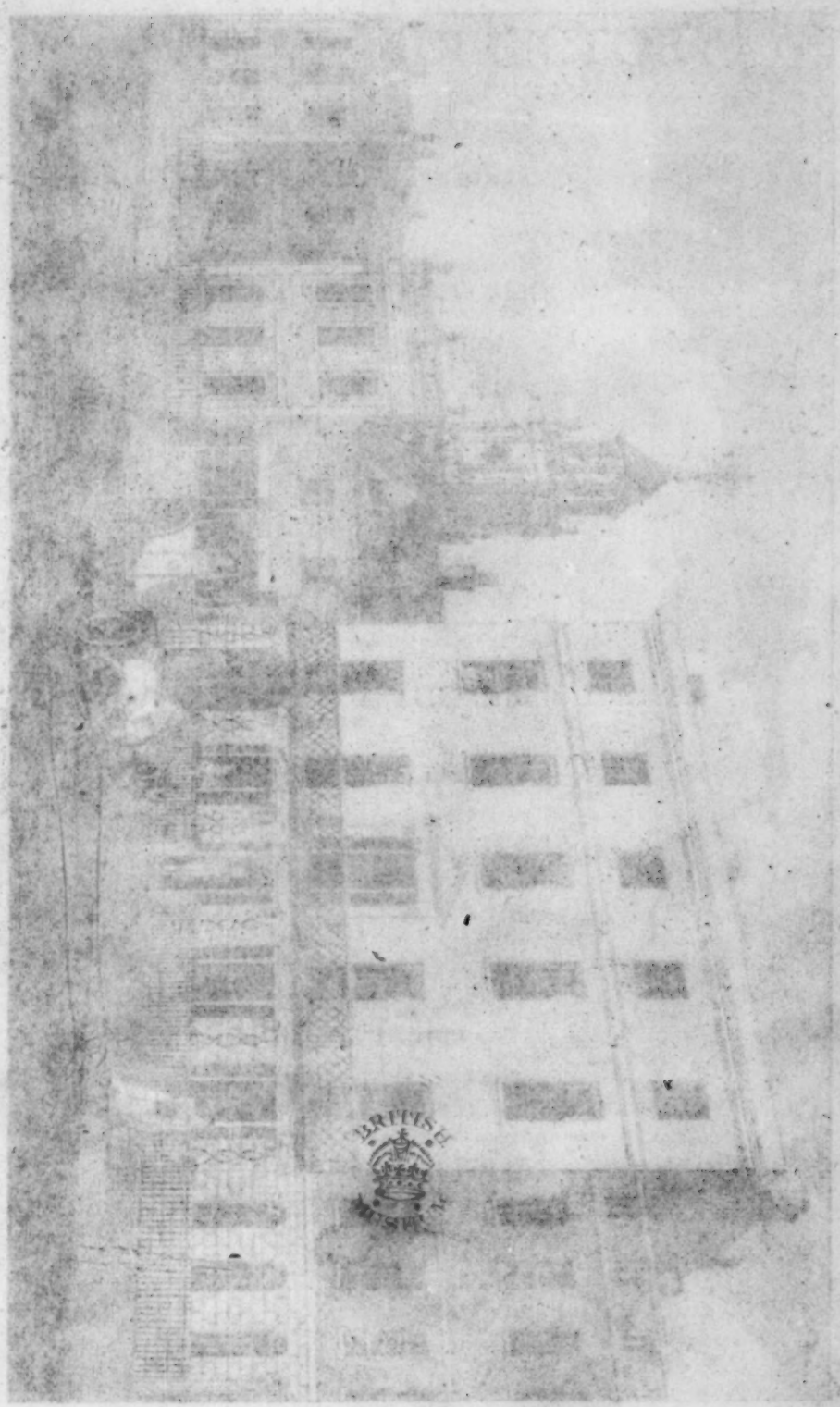
How many youths of Genius oft you'll see
 Depress'd, neglected, chill'd by poverty ;
 Their Parents scarcely can supply them bread,
 Whilst want and famine fills the mind with dread.
 NECESSITY's a spur to GENIUS, true,
 But sometimes goads INVENTION thro' and thro' ;
 It lacerates its side, inflicts a wound,
 And Genius, oft, lies bleeding on the ground ;
 Nipp'd in the bud, the blofsoms fade away,
 They droop, they sink, they languish and decay.

But if you would extend your friendly hand,
 The buds might blossom and the flow'rs expand;
 Rich fruit, in time, each goodly branch might bear,
 And Children, yet unborn, the blessings share.

O! stretch your friendly arms each plant to save,
 And snatch the genial blossoms from the grave;
 O! prop each feeble stem, before it falls,
 O! succour the distress'd, 'tis duty calls;
 Humanity's sweet voice calls, those who can
 Support, protect, and cherish fellow man;
 Remove the sappling plants to richer soil,
 They'll grow, they'll flourish, and reward your toil.
 Relieve the Poor, whose hearts with anguish bleed,
 HEAV'N, and your CONSCIENCE, will approve the deed!



THE OCEANIC COASTING AND TRADING CO. LTD.



LLOYD'S, *New HOTEL, & Hen & Chickens Inn, BIRMINGHAM.*

A
MAGNIFICENT DIRECTORY

COMPRISING THE NAMES, &c.

OF UPWARDS OF THREE HUNDRED
PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMEN, MERCHANTS, BANKERS,
TRADESMEN, MANUFACTURERS, &c.

OF
BIRMINGHAM:

ELEGANTLY ENGRAVED
IN SUPERB AND EMBLEMATIC PLATES,

RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

TO
ALL PATRONIZERS OF THE LIBERAL ARTS,

BY THEIR MOST OBEDIENT,

AND OBLIGED SERVANT,

James Bisset.

MUSEUM, BIRMINGHAM,
JAN. 1, 1800.

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MAGNETIC DIRECTORY

OF THE NEW ZEALAND HARBORS

AND THE ADJACENT COASTS OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

BY J. H. COOPER, R.N.

BRITISH

NAVY

IN SUPPLY OF THE NEW ZEALAND HARBORS

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IN THE

Magnificent Directory.

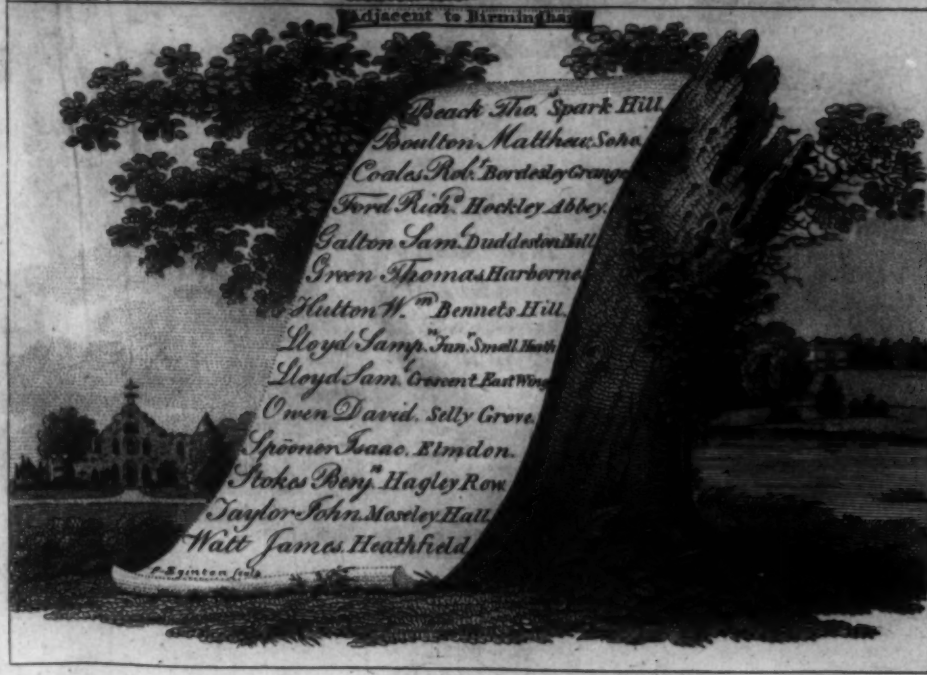
- A. Bankers, Birmingham, and Gentlemen adjacent, Emblems of Stability;
View of Mr. Ford's, Hockley-Abbey, and M. Boulton's, Esq. Soho.
- B. Merchants, Birmingham; Britannia supporting the Scroll.
- C. Miscellaneous Professions, &c. New-street; View, Theatre, &c. and
Bisset's Museum.
- D. Do. Do. High-street; distant View of St. Martin's Spire.
- E. Gun Makers, &c. Trophies of War.
- F. Inns and Taverns, &c. and View of Mr. Swinney's Type Foundry.
- G. Factors, Birmingham; View, Crescent and Wharfs.
- H. Miscellaneous Professions, &c. View, New Church and Blue-School.
- I. Do. Do. in Shields, with emblematic Crests.
- J. Artists, and in lower Compartment, Mr. Clay's Patent Cart, &c.
- K. Sword Manufacturers, &c. with emblematic Devices.
- L. Brass Founders, with View of the Brass-house, and Miscellaneous Cards.
- M. Toy-makers; View of Birmingham from the Navigation Office.
- N. Miscellaneous Professions, &c. View of St. Paul's Chapel.
- O. Japanners; and, in lower Compartment; View of Park Glass House.
- P. Miscellaneous Professions, &c.
- Q. Do. Do. View of Birmingham, from the Warwick Canal.
- R. Button Makers, with a Stamp, Presses and Lathe.
- S. Miscellaneous Professions, &c. in Deritend; and View of Chapel and Terrace.
- T. View of Soho Manufactory, belonging to M. Boulton, Esq.
- U. Do. of Eagle Foundry, Broad-street, and Mr. Whitmore's, Newhall-street.
- V. Lloyd's New Hotel, and King Edward's Free-School, New-street.
- W. Exterior and interior View of Aston Glass House, &c.
- X. Mr. Thomason's Patent Carriage Steps, and Manufactory.

Extra Plates, which accompany the above, intended for Bisset's Grand National Directory, or Universal Register, now publishing in Numbers.

- No. 1. View of Westminster Life Insurance, and British Fire Office, Strand, London, with a List of Directors, &c.
- No. 2. Elegant Emblematic Figure for Phoenix Fire Office, Lombard-street, London, with a List of Directors, &c.
- No. 3. Elegant Picturesque Views and Emblematic Designs, Trophies of War, &c.

Exclusive of a Plan of Birmingham, drawn by the ingenious Mr. Sherriiff, of King's Swinford, late of the Crescent, Birmingham.



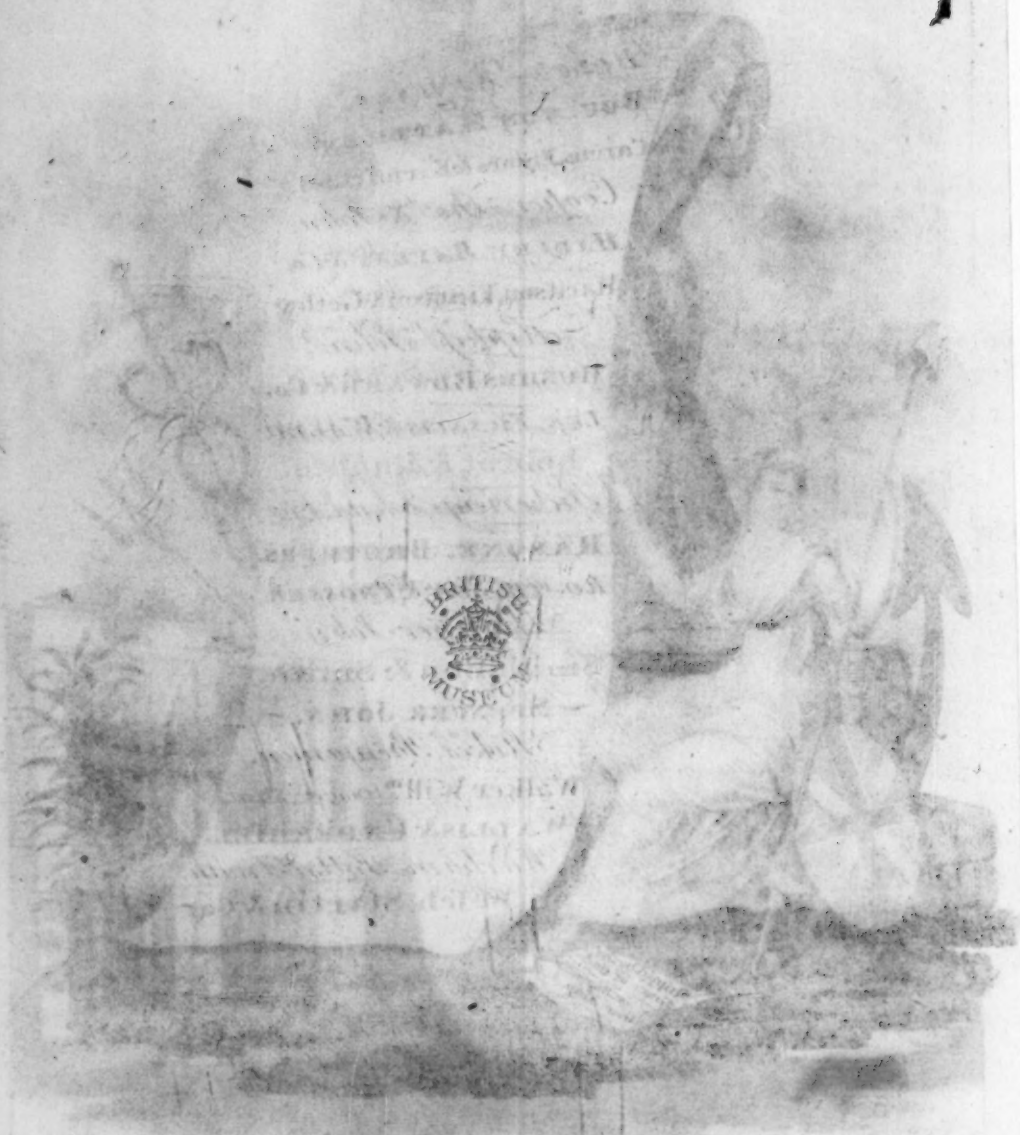


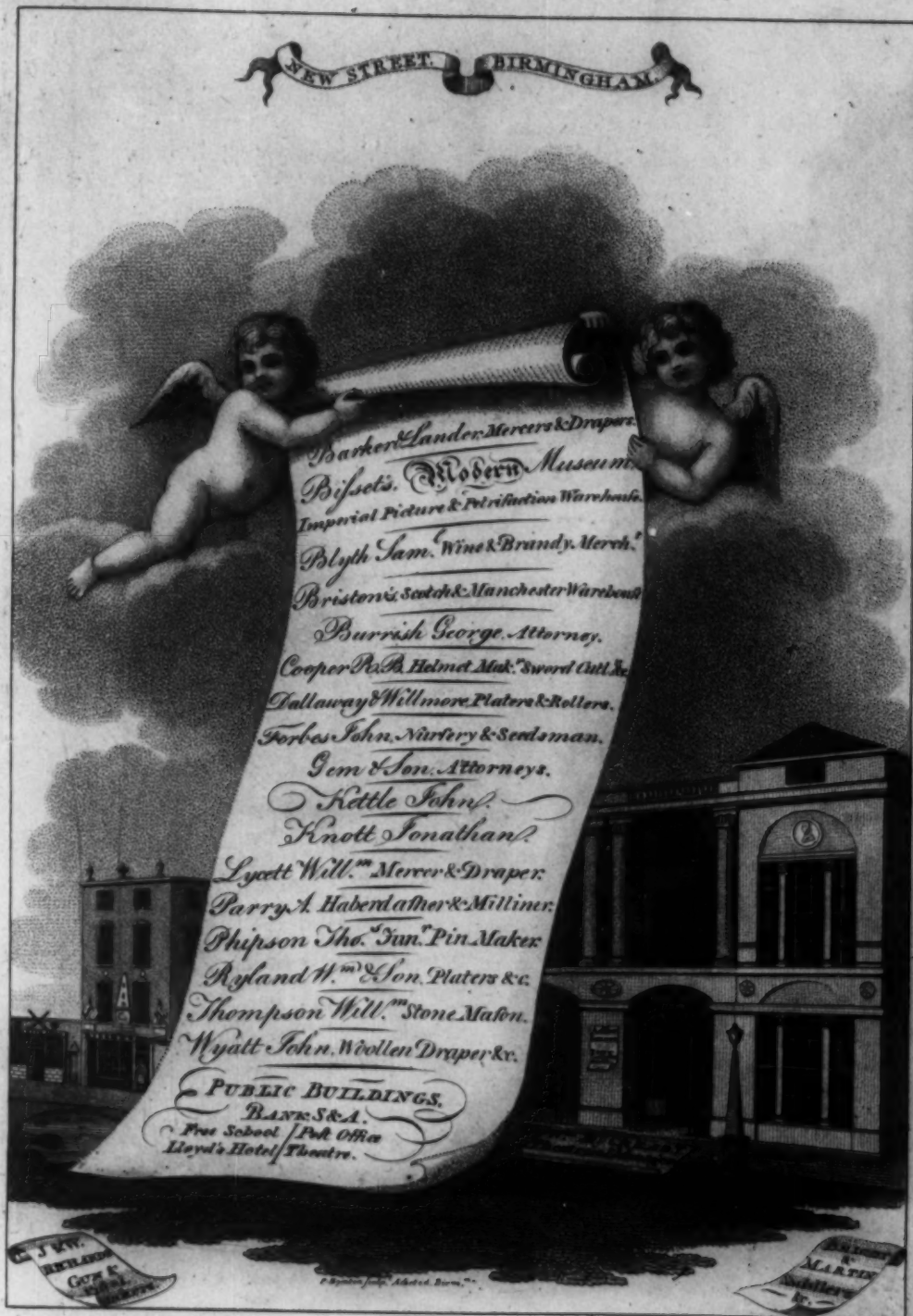


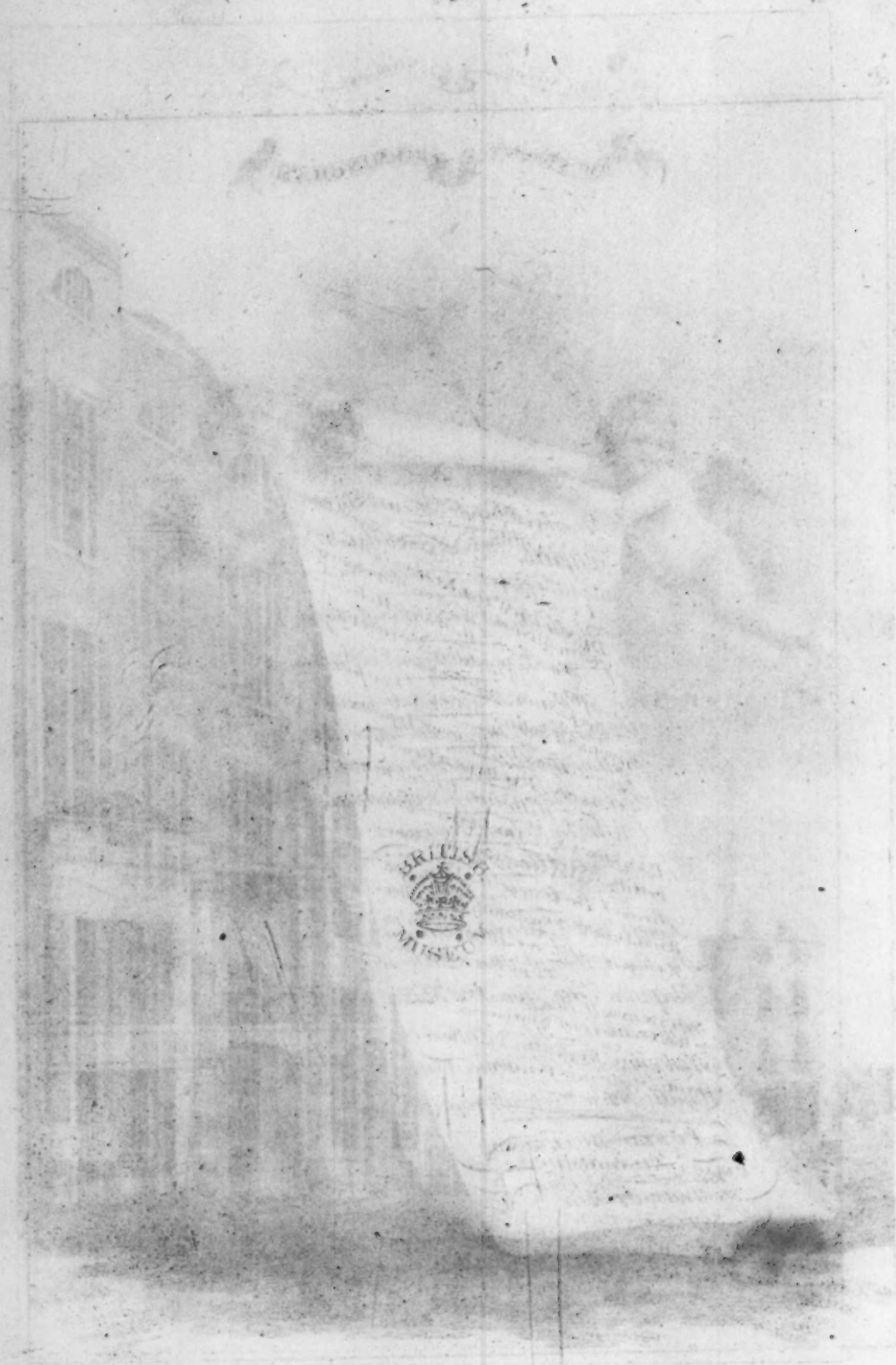
 MERCHANTS BIRMINGHAM



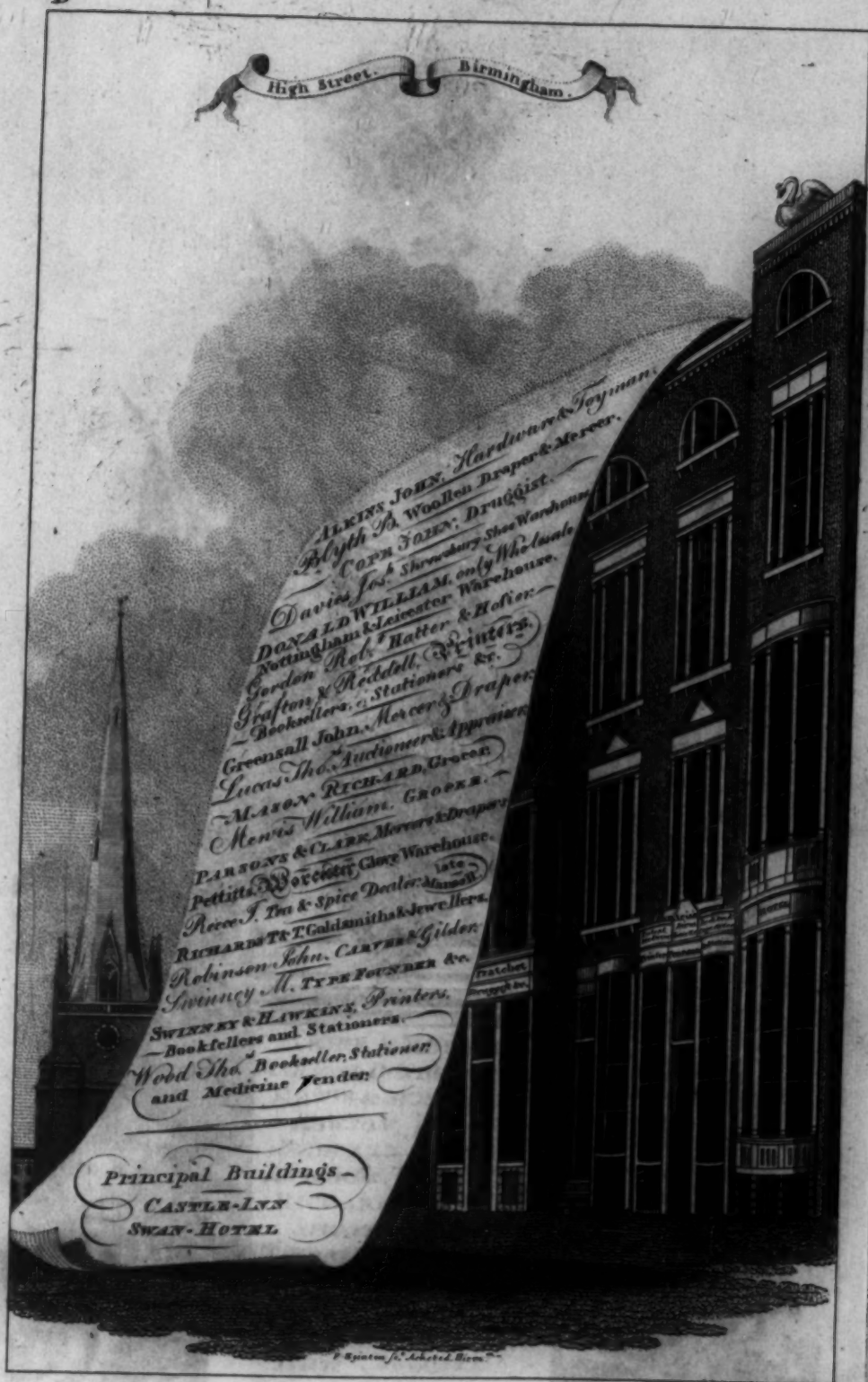
STATIONERS' HALL

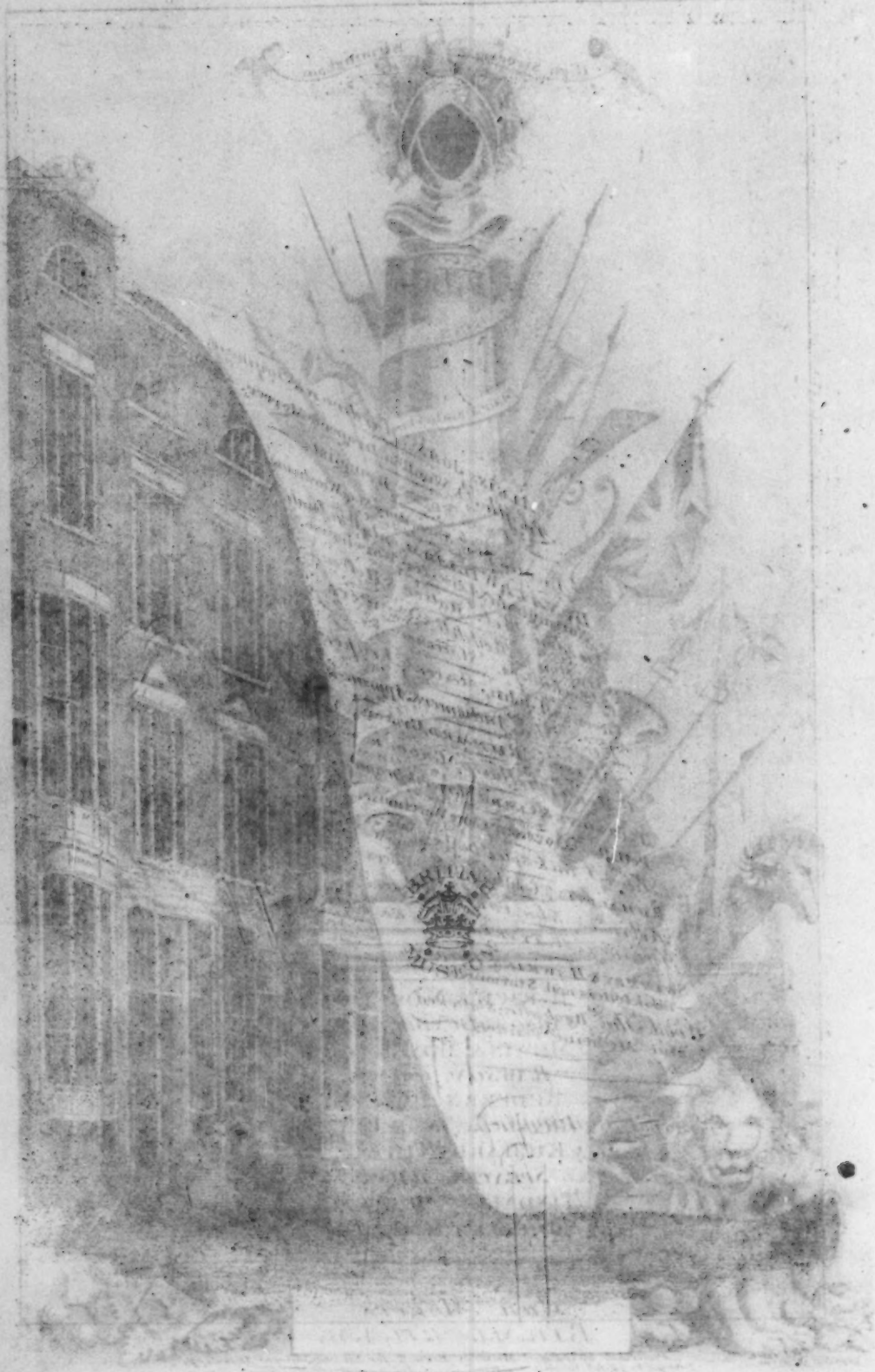




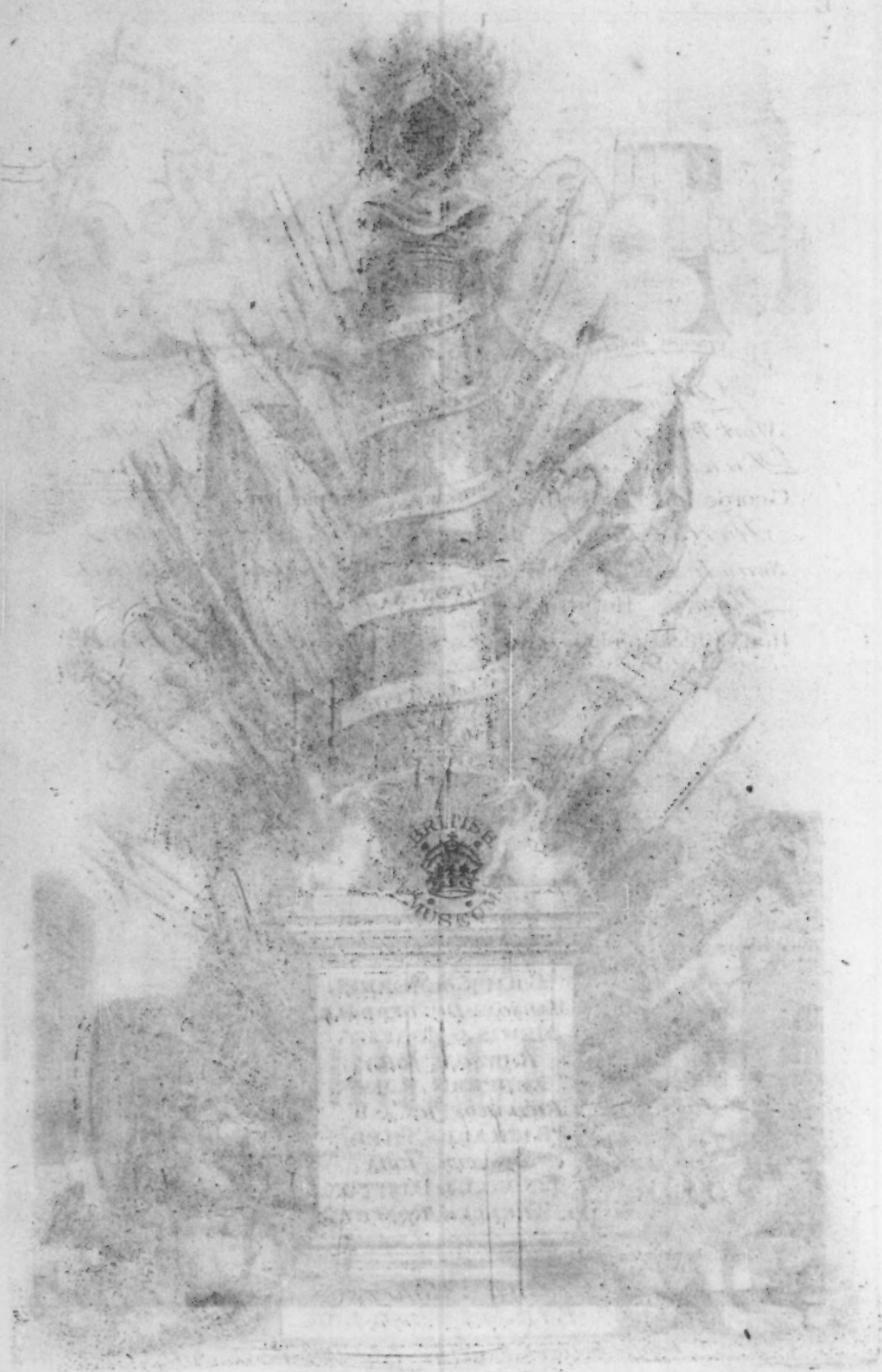


Printed and Published by J. G. & J. H. Smith, 15, Old Bailey, London, E.C. 4.





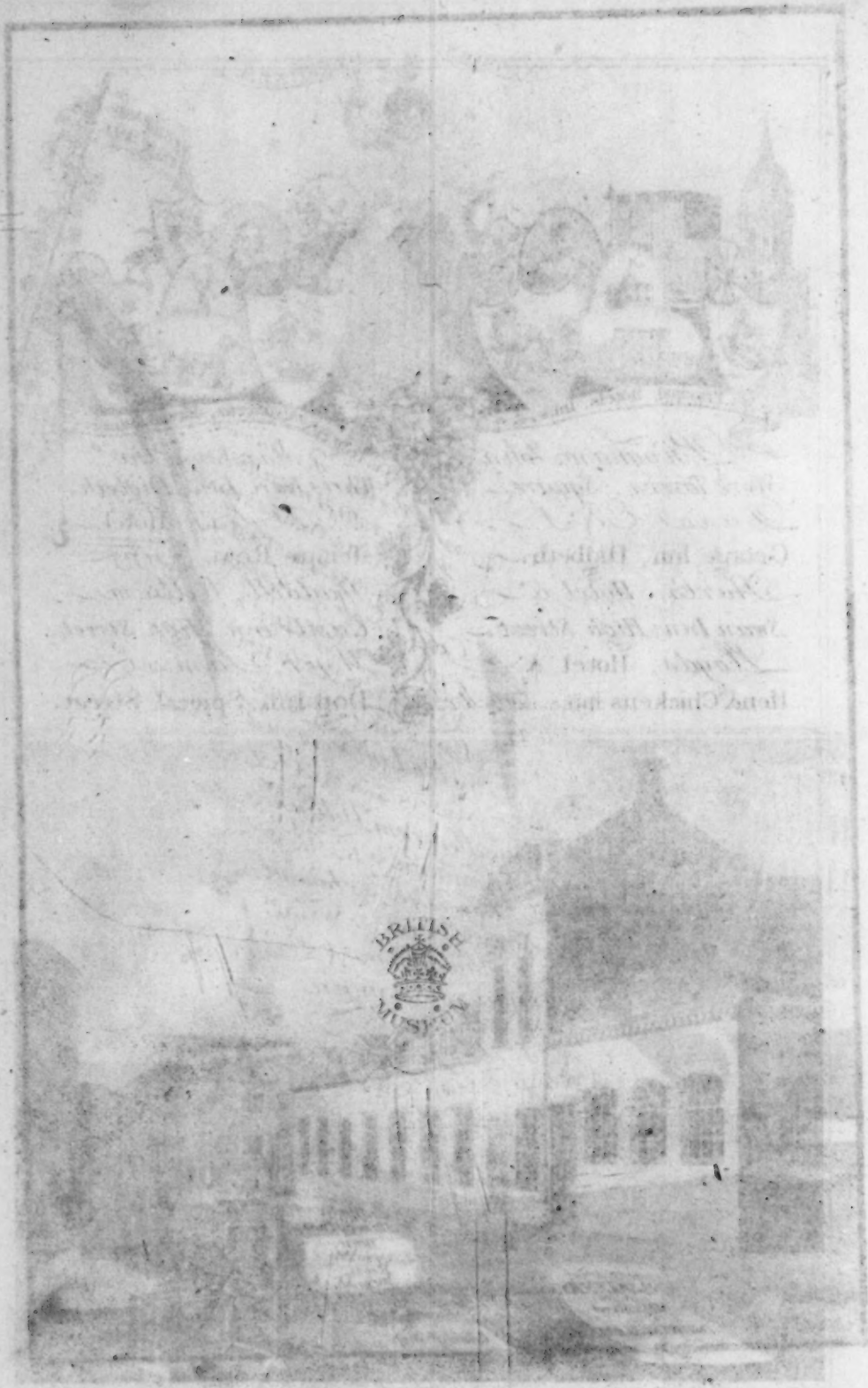


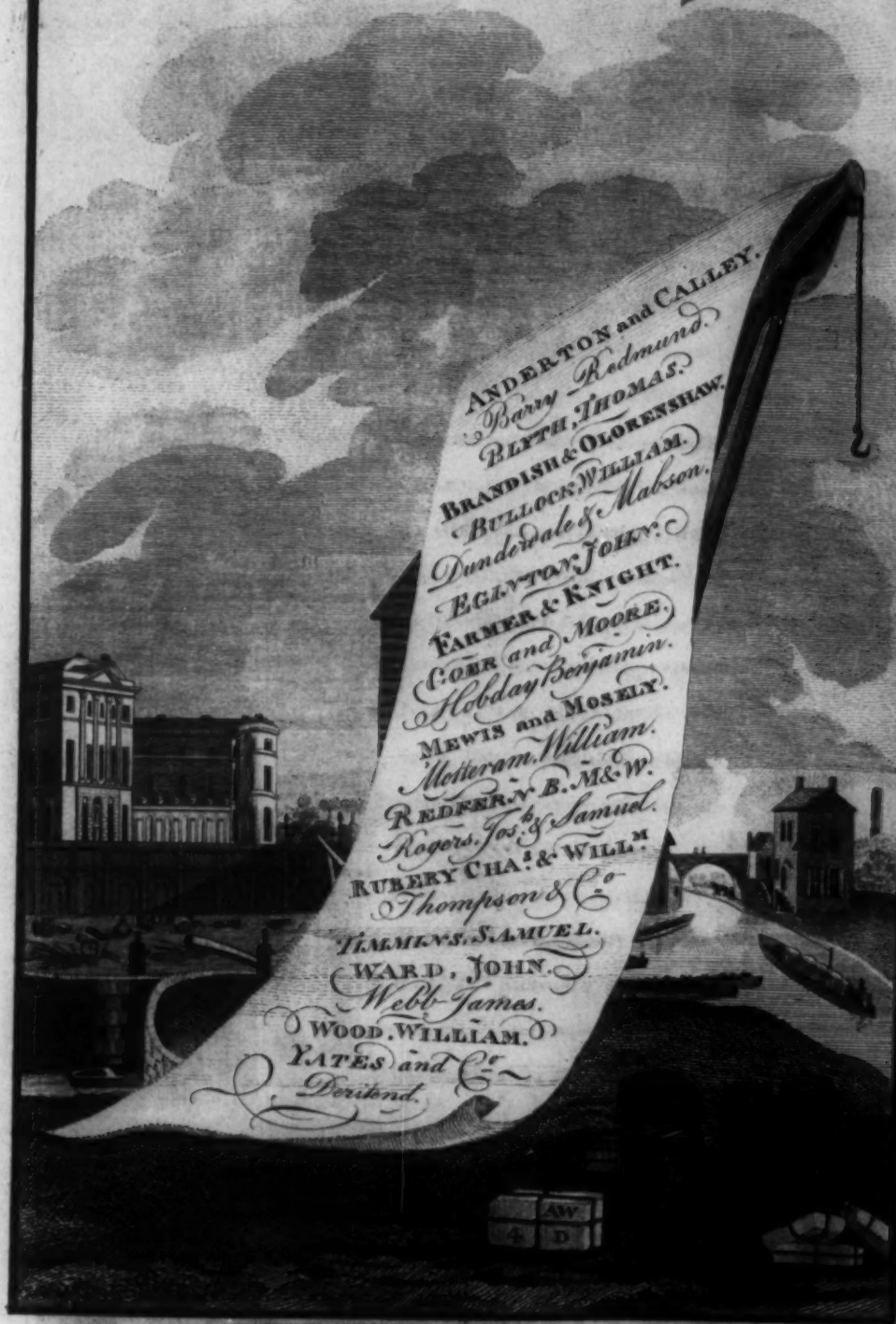


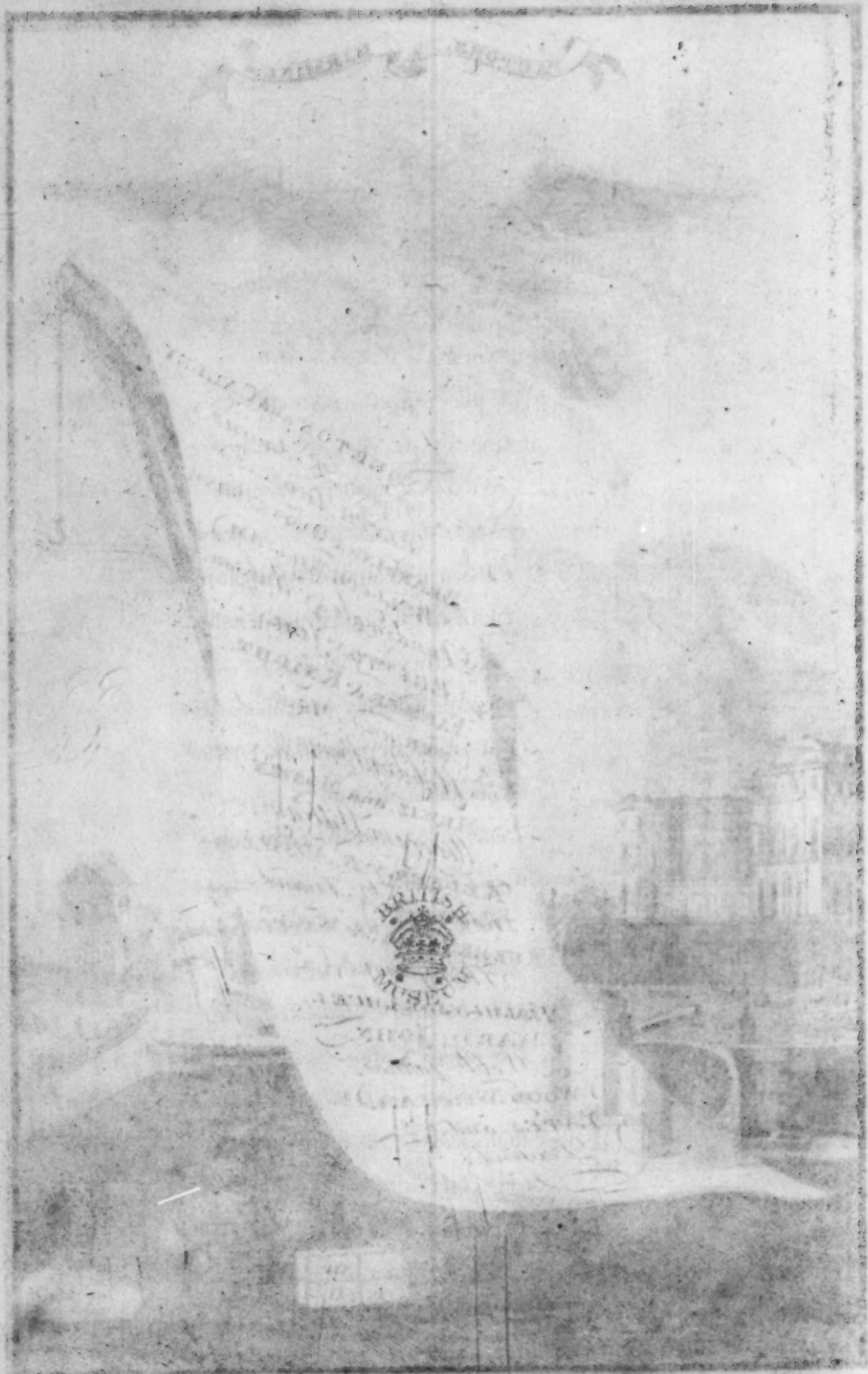
Bingham, John
Stork Tavern, Square.
Dunn, E. & S.
George Inn, Digbeth.
Hart's, Hotel, &
Swan Inn, High Street.
Lloyd's, Hotel, &
Hen & Chickens Inn, New Str.

Marston, Tho.
White Hart Inn, Digbeth.
Styless, Hotel.
Temple Row.
Waddell, Williams
Castle Inn, High Street.
Wyer, Samuel
Dog Inn, Spiceal Street.









BRITISH
POST OFFICE

GENERAL POST OFFICE

ST. JAMES'S PLACE, LONDON

W.C. 2

ENGLAND

1890

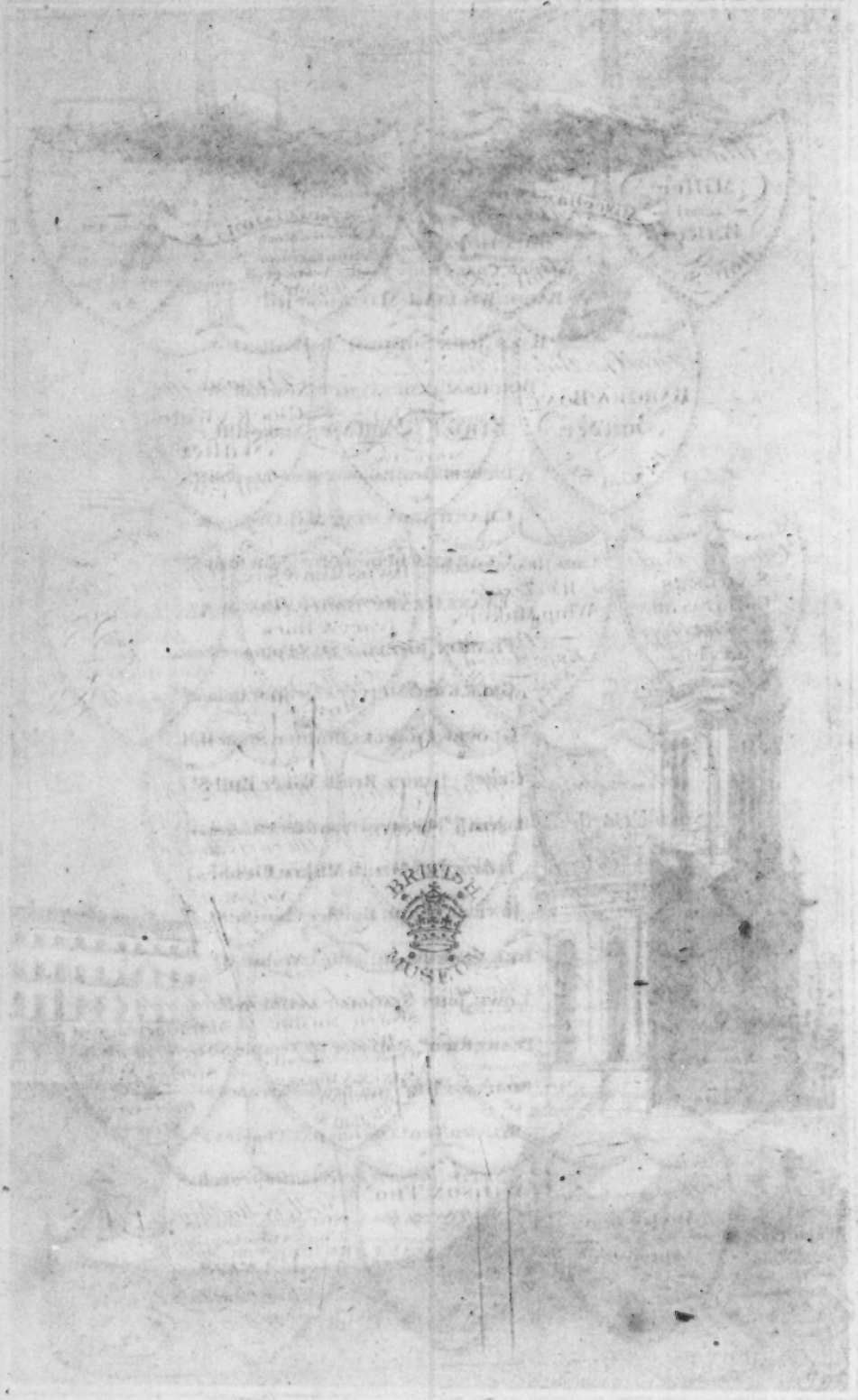
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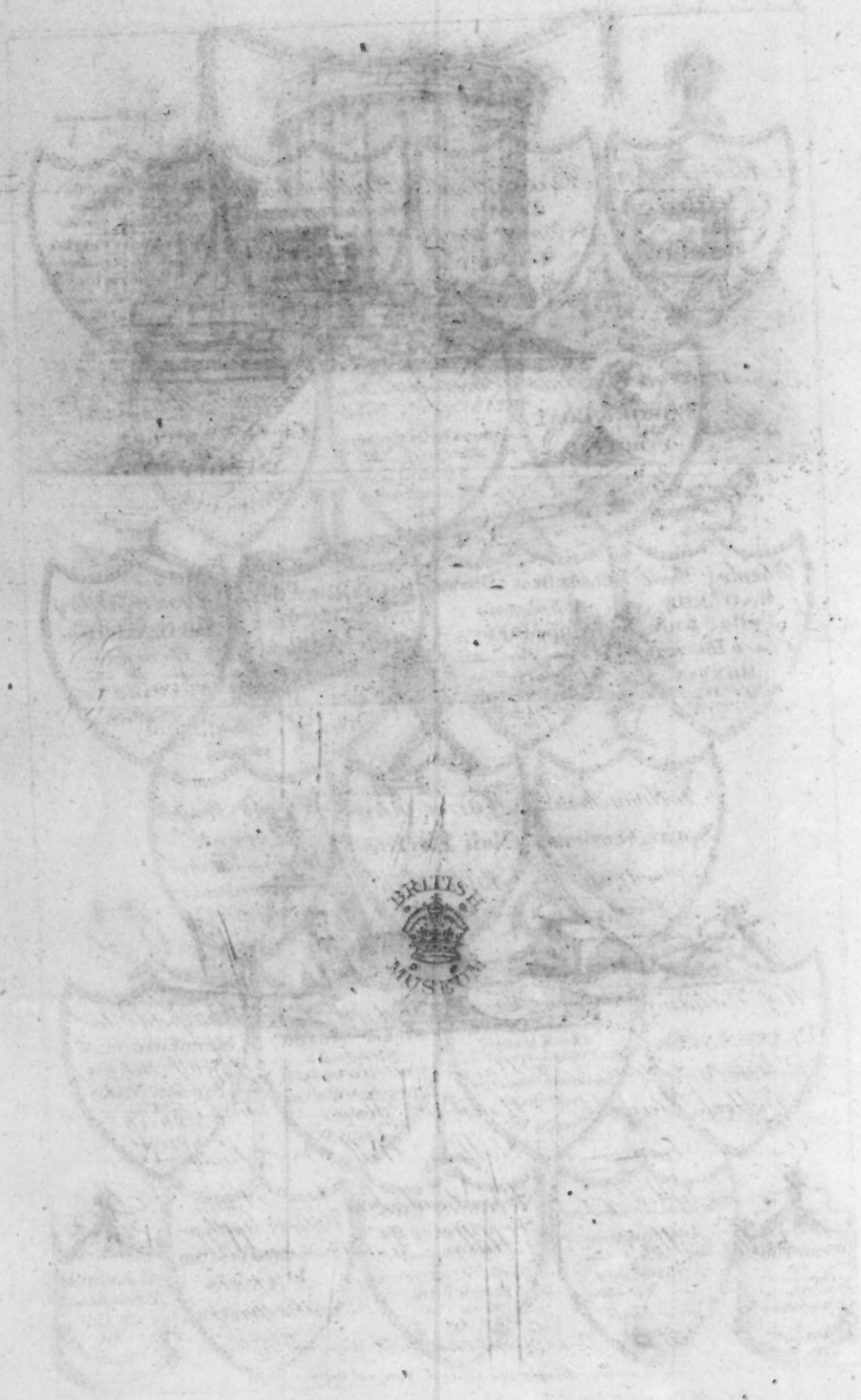
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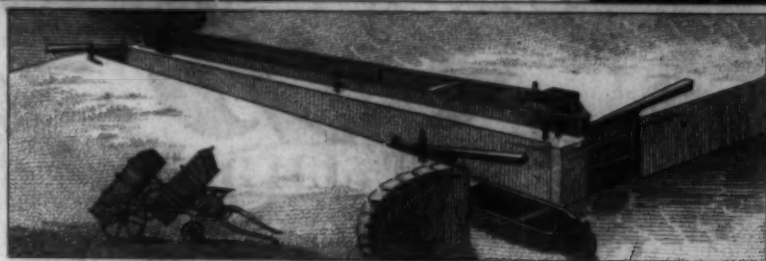
10/10



Miscellaneous Productions of Birmingham

 Allan John Miller and Baker Bull Street	 Baker Saml Ivory & Hard Wood Turner Bull ring	 Balden Joseph Successor to Tho ^d Beach Scale Beam, Stud-yard & Screw-Stock Manufacturer Well-Digbeth	 <i>Also</i> Manufacturers Copper & Money Scales Gold Machines &c Brass & Iron Weights Properly Adjusted Repairs on Reasonable terms &c.
 Bird Geo Rider BARGE & BOAT Builder Broad St.	 Brotherhood Saml Navigation Street Cures Evils Cancers and Scorbutic Complaints &c	 Brown Tho^d Clock & Watch Maker Bull ring	
 Clankes Beale SADDLERS Collar and Coach Harness Makers N ^o 17 Digbeth	 CLANK BEAL & OSBORN Wholesale Whip Makers for Exportation N ^o 17 Digbeth	 DAVIES MARY & SON Tortoiseshell Box Ivory & Horn Comb Makers (by the) Moat	 Dixon Henry Anvil, Axletree Hammer & Vice Maker &c Digbeth
 Fallows Saml Spring Gardens Floodgate Street	 Harris John Nail-Factor Edgbaston Street	 Knight Joseph PLATER & Harness Maker in General Suffolk St. 77	
 Moss Williams PLANE MAKER Cannon Street N ^o 13	 Osborn Thomas Automatinal & Musical Clock Maker Watch Repairer & Constructer & Experimentall & Philosophical Apparatus Fenchall St.	 Watred J. N^o Scotch Muslin Warehouse Wholesale & Retail LINK & WOLLEN Draper 89 Bull St.	 Whitefield Edw^d Manufacturer of Scale Beams Steel-yards &c Church Street
 WARR THO^d Cannon St. Die Engraver & Goldsmith	 WILSON THO^d Proprietor of the Improved Antiscorbutic Drops Dr Andersons Scotch Pills Worm Cakes &c 129 Worcester St.	 Waller Matthew Clock & Weather Glass MAKER 51 Edgbaston Street	 Westwood O^b Picture Frame Maker &c Chandos

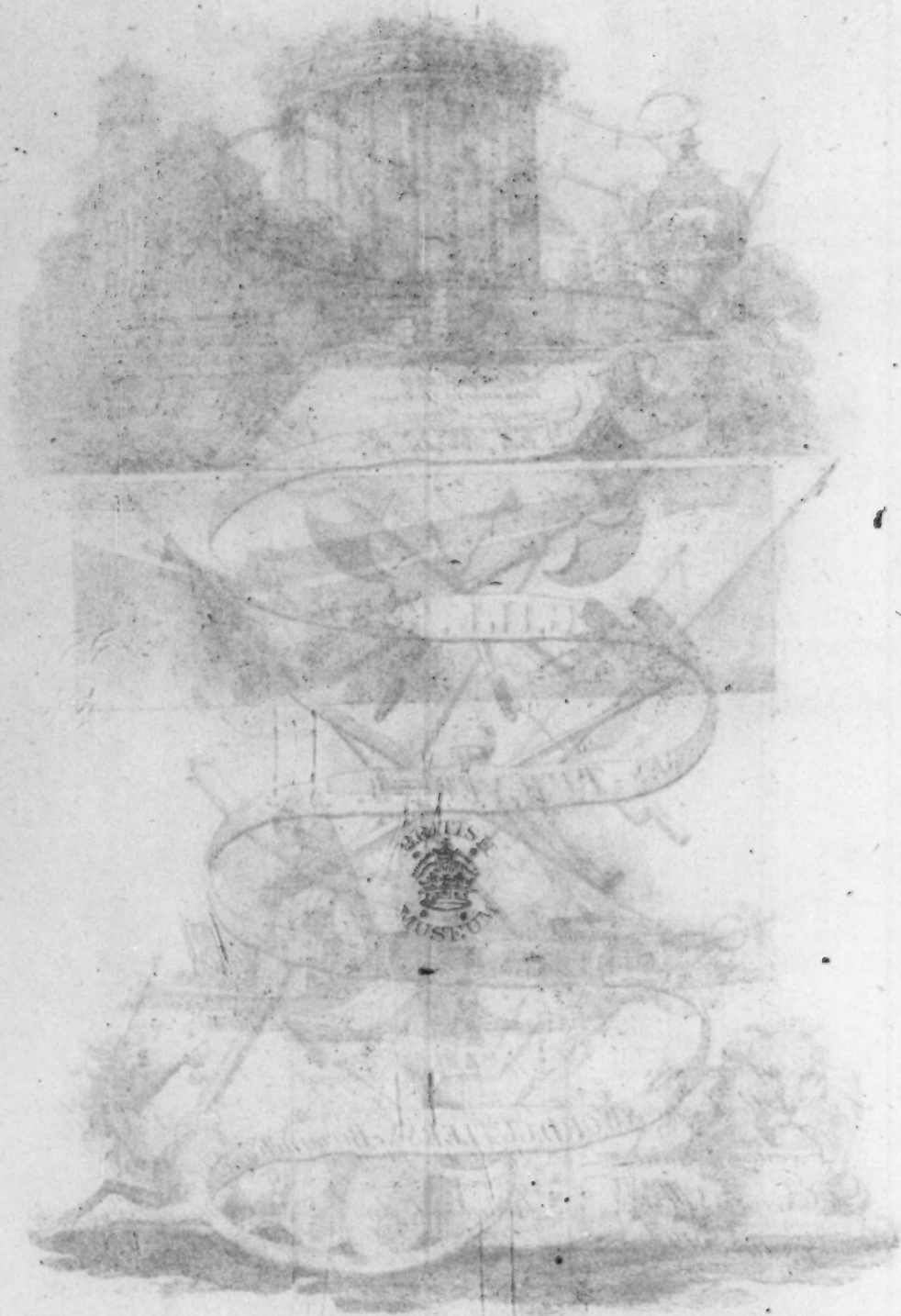




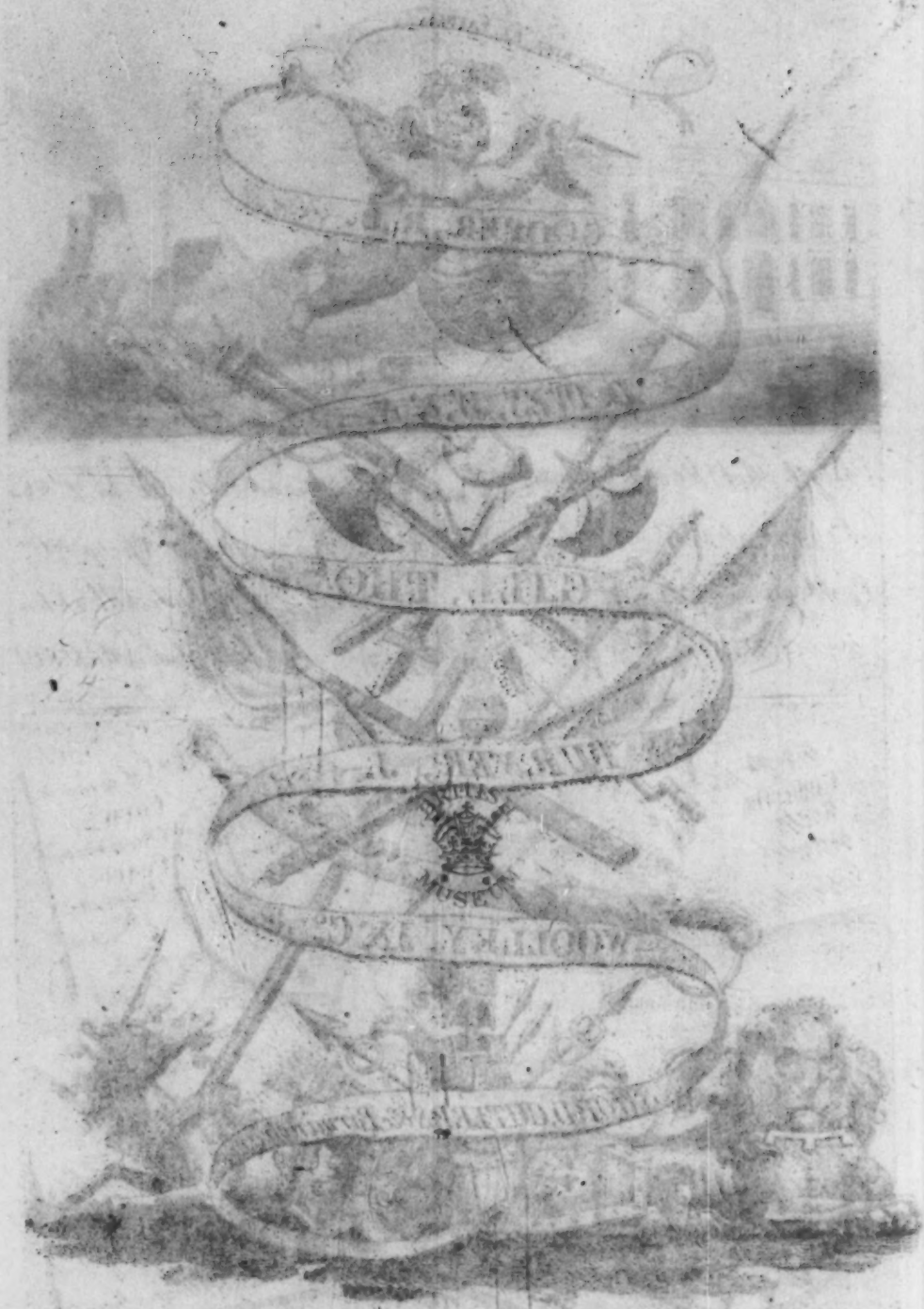
Bisfet, James.
Bullock, George.
Eginton, Francis.
Everist, Allen.
Fiedler, Albert.

Hancock, T. Gregory.
Haughton, Moses.
Hollins, Will. m.
Hearland, Sam. l.
Miller, Thomas.

Patrick, Joseph.
Richards, C. & Son.
Rudge, Edw. d.
Smith, John.
Willis, Thomas.









Blyth. Robt. & Co.
Dolphin. John
Goddington. James
Jones & Barker.

Rowlinson D. & Son
Simcox. George & Co.
Underhill John
Webster Rich. & Co.

Miscellaneous Professions &c. Birmingham.

In. Boyce
Umbrella
Brass
Founder.
Deritend.

JOHN BINGHAM
Stock Exchange
Agent to the Hon. Mr.
John Russell
Esq.

Edw. Farmer
Accountant
in General.
Noted R.

JOHN GREEN
& SON
Snuff & Tobacco
& Brass Cast
Foundry
in Street.

Wm. Dunn
Corn
& Cheese Factor
Coach
Proprietor
&c.
Highgate

M. MOGRIDGE
Dealer
in Canal Shares
Brass Copper
&c.
Freeman Street.

HANDASYD & RUMMER
Cook Founders.
& Warming Pan
Makers.
Hill Street.

JOHN L. LANE
Plaster of Paris
Plaster & Stairs
&c.
20th St.

PHILLIPS
& SON
Spade & Plantation
Hoe Manufacturers
Summer Row.

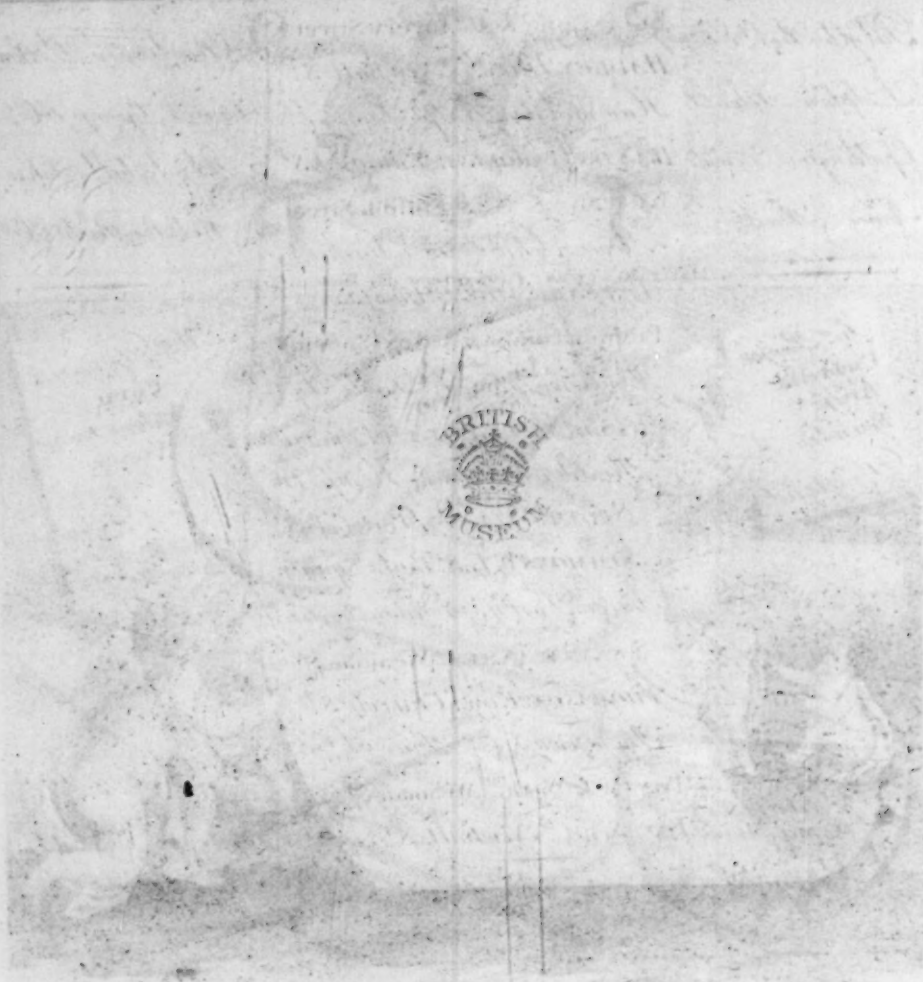
W. Key
Owner
of Wharfinger Broad St.
of the West of England
for Transport of Goods
for Thames & Severn
Canal.

E. Todd
Book Binder &c.
N. 15
New Meeting Street

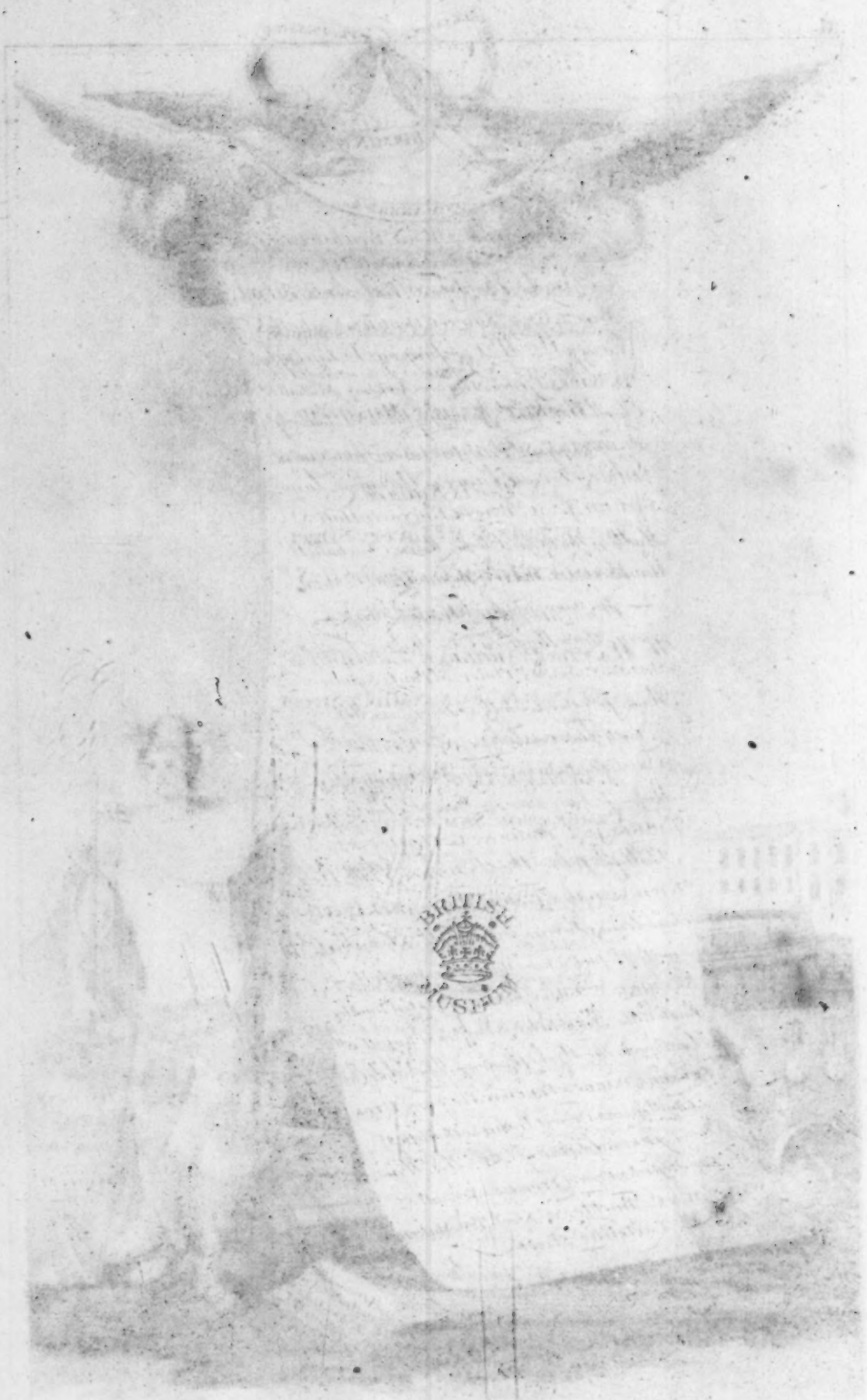
WEISCH
Translator
of Languages

JOSEPH IDLEY
Plaster, Paved, &c. Street.

Smith & L.

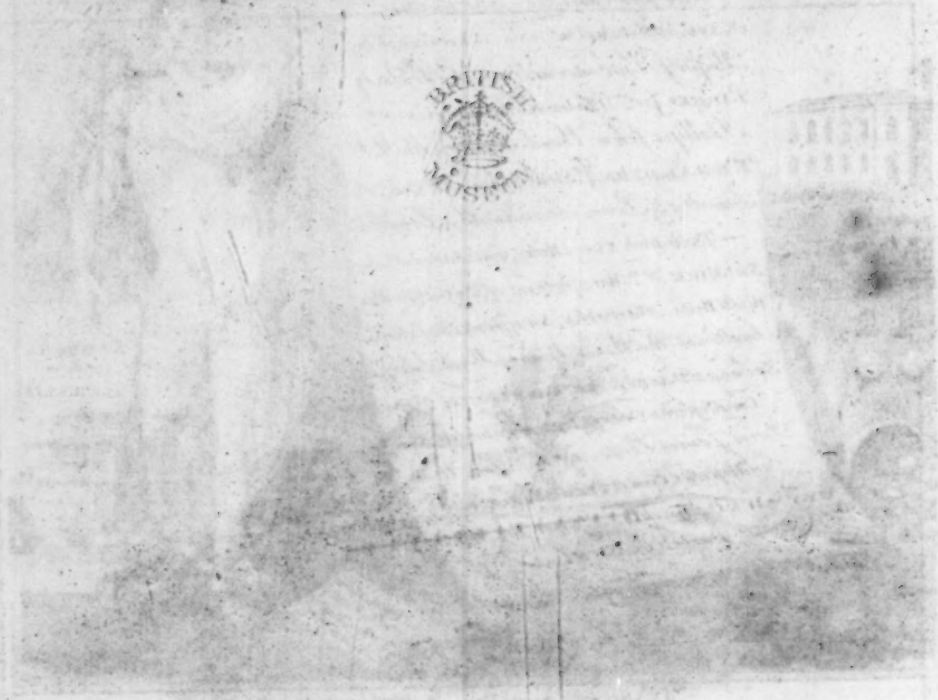
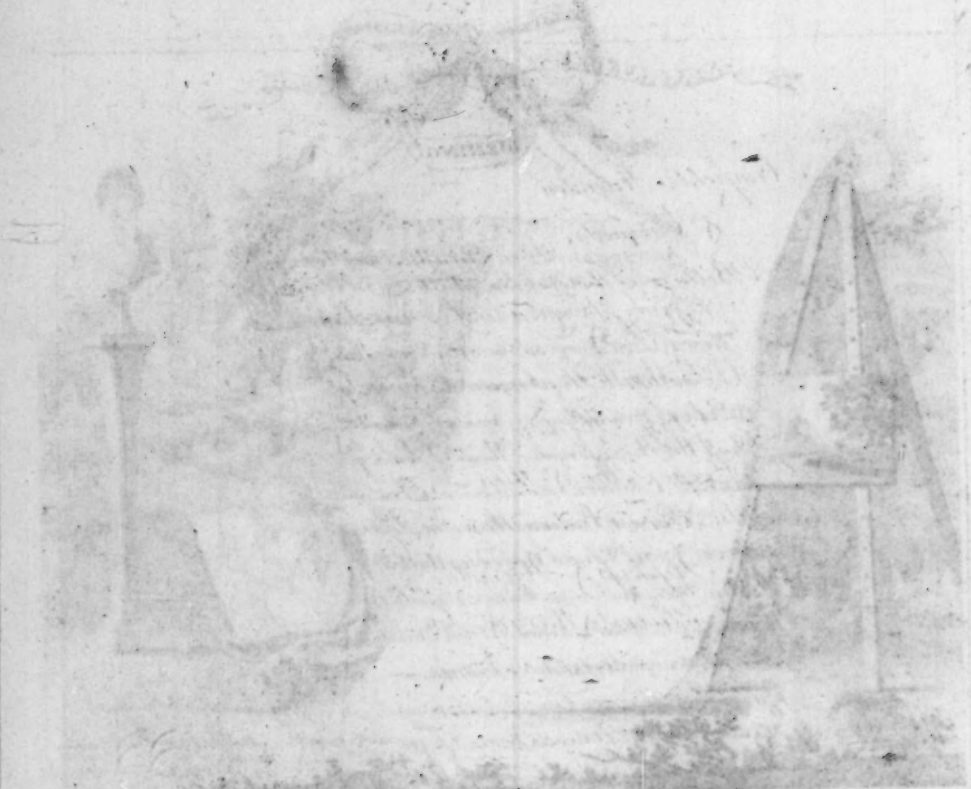


ADcock & IVEY, Coleshill-Street.
 ANDERTON & CALLEY, Weaman-S.
 Barnett, John Snowhill.
 BISSET, JAMES MUSEUM.
 Buggins Biddulph & Buggins
 S. Pauls Square.
 ELLIS, JOHN & C^o Livery-Street.
 HADLEY, THOMAS Newhall-S.
 Hammersly, Ralph Bath St.
 HANDS, CAROLINE Edmund-S.
 KETTLE & SON, Suffolk-Street.
 Moore, John New-Market.
 PATRICK, THO^s C^o Hampton-S.
 PEMBERTON, SAM^l & SON, Snowhill.
 Pemberion, Tho^s S^t Pauls Sq.
 RUDDER & LEDSAM, Edmunds.
 Rudder Ledsam & Kemp, D^o
 SCOTT, WILLIAM Pritchett-S.
 SIMMONS, W. L. S^t Pauls Square.
 Surges Darby & Feraday, Charlott^s.
 SWAINE, JAMES Weaman-S.
 THOMASOV, EDW^d Church-S.
 Thompson & C^o Price St.
 TONGUE WILL^m Weaman-S.
 TOX, SAM^l Newhall-S.



AMPFIELD, S. Bone, Brush & Ivory Toy
 Maker, Snowhill
 Bird, Thomas, Steel-house Lane
 BOTT, GEO.^d Surgeon Dentist, Newhall-S.^t
 Carson W.^m M.D. Surgeon, St. Pauls Sq.
 DAVIES French & Engraving Academy Newhall-S.^t
 Elliot W.^m Wine & Brandy, Merch. St. Pauls Sq.
 FREETH, C. Silver Caster in General Gt. Cha.^s S.^t
 Gilas & Forrest, Knivers, Marston Lane
 GOUGH, JAM.^s Bright Engraver, Hall-S.^t
 Hadley, Tho.^s & Son, Chapel, Makers, Newhall-S.^t
 HOBBS, W. Maker of Rolled & Plated Metals
 — for Manufacturers Edmund Street —
 Jefferys, Tho.^s Shaerren Case, Makers & Smiths
 MALKIN, SAM.^s Plater, St. Pauls Square
 Mason, Jo.^s Tortoiseshell & Ivory Box Makers
 Tooth-pick Cases &c. New Town Row
 MAYO, ISAAC, Awl & Needle, Makers & Stockley
 Mosley, J. Barrister at Law, St. Pauls Sq.
 PARKES, JO.^s Plater &c. Gt. Charles-S.^t
 Phillips, John, Wood Turner, Bull-S.^t
 RICHARDSON, J. Stone Mason, Gt. Cha.^s S.^t
 Saunders & Percy, Tortoiseshell & Ivory Box
 — Tooth-pick Case Makers &c. Snowhill —
 SELBIE, W.^m Manufacturer, of Plated Buckles
 Bridle Bits, Nutcracks, Snuffers & Ruffall-S.^t
 Smallwood, Tho. Wine & Brandy, Merch. St. Pauls Sq.
 STUBBS, DARRY & PERKINS, Platers of Urns
 Candlesticks, Crowet Frames &c. Barlottes-S.^t
 Twist, James, Plater, of Sea Pos. Arms
 Candlesticks, Crowet Frames &c. Newhall-S.^t
 WYNN, W. & C. Buckle, & Steel Toy Makers
 Caroline Street.

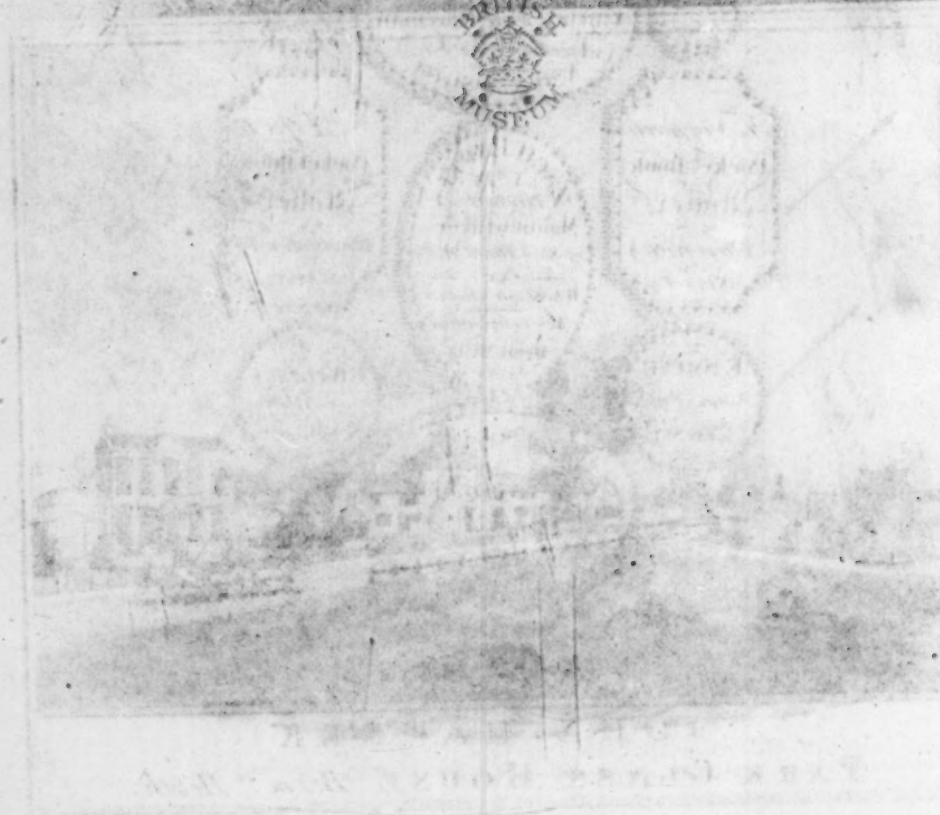
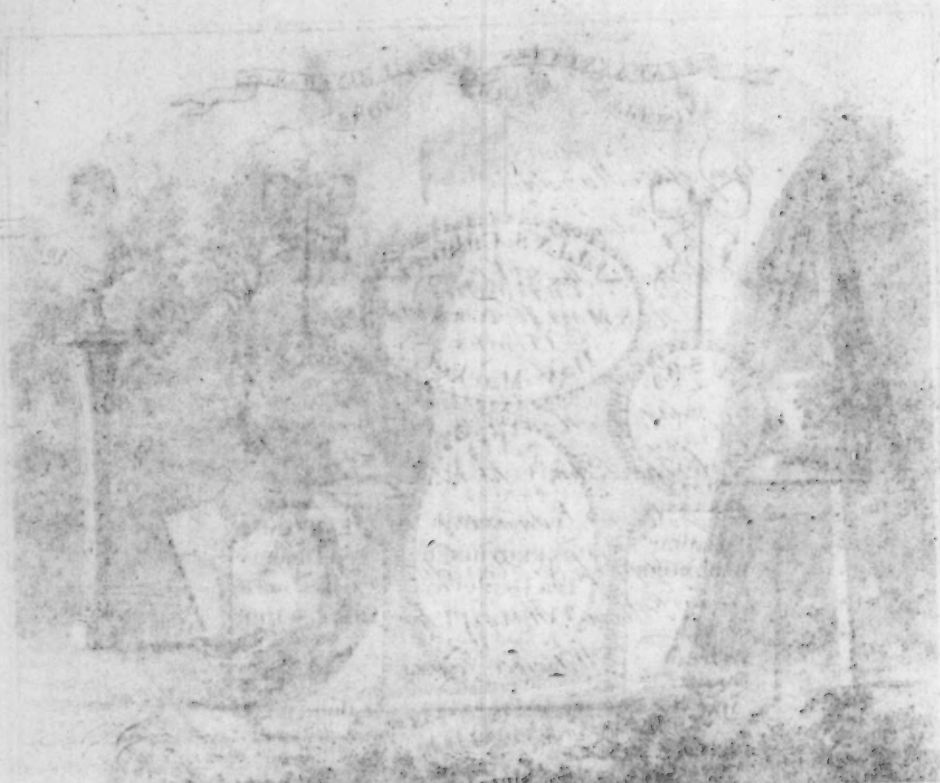
SIMON.
 TIMMONS
 Ring
 Manufactory
 Every St.^t

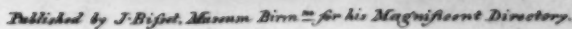


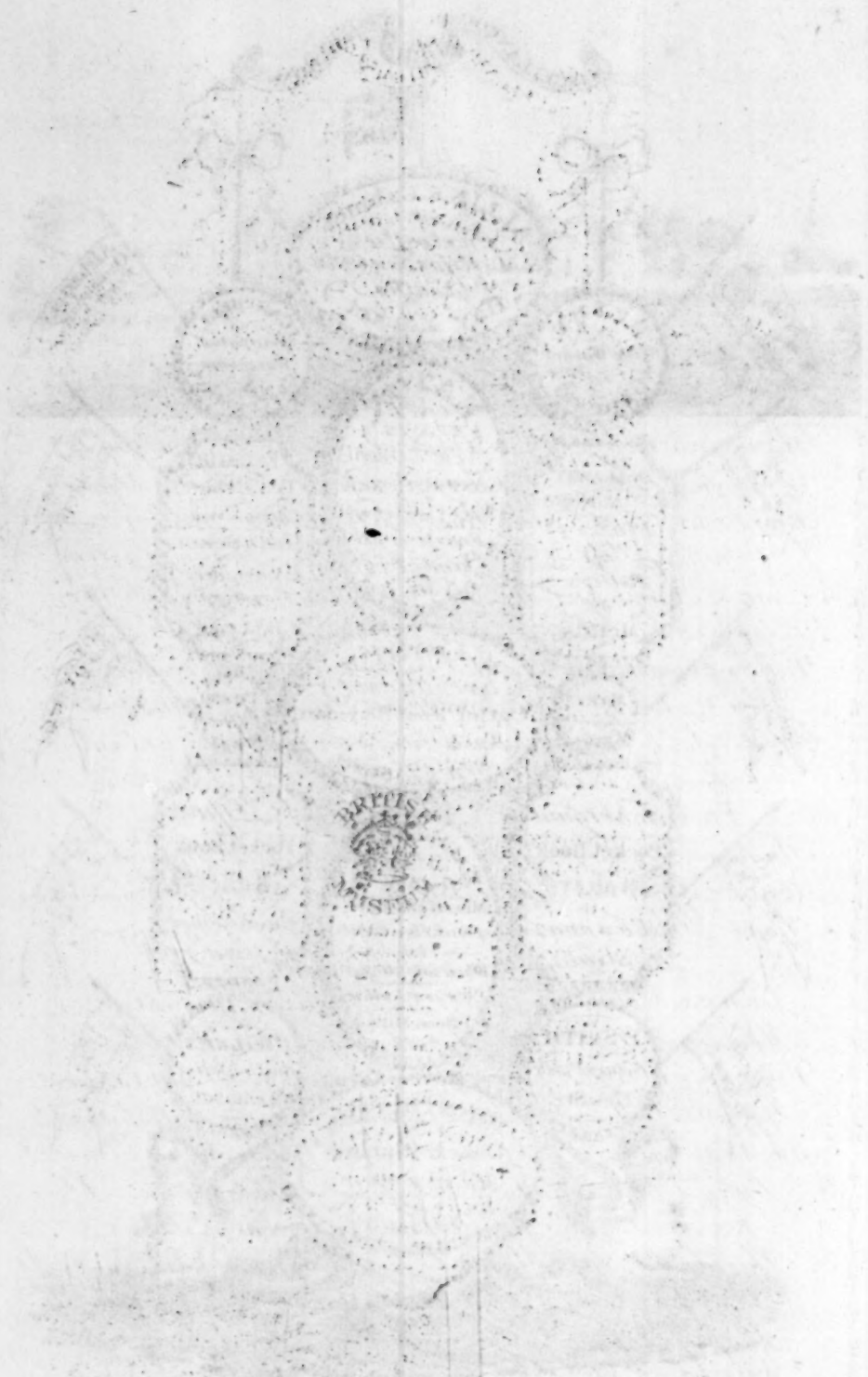


JOHN HAWKER
 PARK GLASS HOUSE Birm^m Heath.

STANDARD 1847
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BARNARD, Copper-Plate PRINTER &c. New-Meeting-S.^t
Bishop, Tho.^s Book-seller & Stationer, Bull-Street.
BOWDLER, THO.^s Steel-Buckle & Toy-Maker, Jennens-Row.
Brunner, Paul. Wood & Bone Brush-Maker, Digbeth.
CLARK, & ASHMORE (late May) Whip-Manufacturers Bull-Ring.
Dolphin, John. Manufacturer of Cabinet & Commode Furniture.
 Picture Frames. New-Invented Coffin Furniture &c. Prospect-Row.
 — **EDEN**, ROB.^t SILVER-PLATER General, Ashsted. —
Erwins, & C.^o Manufacturers of Composition Ornaments, Castle-S.^t
Farmer, Edu.^d Accomptant General, Ashsted-Row.
FRANCIS, THO.^s NAIL-MAKER, MOAT.
Haywood, John. Brass Founder & Lamp-Maker, Weaman-S.^t
HORDAY, SAM.^l Sen.^r Iron Tin Spoon Maker, & Engraver, Weaman-Row.
Jacob, Benj.ⁿ Auctioneer & Appraiser, Ironmonger.
 — & Toy Man, near the Welch Cross —
JAMES, WILL.^m Auctioneer & Appraiser, Moor-Street.
Molesworth, Tho.^s Upholder & Cabinet-Maker, Dale-End.
PHIPSON, THO.^s & SON, Millers & Rollers, Steam-Mill Fazeley-S.^t
Robbins, Will.^m Gilder, & Thimble-Maker, Colleshill-S.^t
ROBINSON, JOHN. Builder & Picture Frame-Maker, &c. Moor-S.^t
Ryley, Will.^m Upholder & Cabinet-Maker, Union-S.^t
RYLEY, DAN.^l Ivory-Turner, Greens-Village.
Shield, John. Musical Instrument-Maker, Queen-S.^t
SLOAN, E. & S. Pocket-Book-Maker, Jamaica Row.
Snape, John. Land Surveyor, & Civil Engineer
WHEELLEY, FRANCIS Coach-Maker, Lichfield-Street.
Yates, Tho.^s Buckle Stock Sinker, &c. Colleshill-S.^t



Handwritten text in a cursive script, appearing to be a letter or a formal document. The text is written in a dark ink and is somewhat faded and difficult to read due to the age and quality of the reproduction.



Continuation of the handwritten text from the upper section, maintaining the same cursive script. The text is also somewhat faded and difficult to read.

A few lines of handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or a closing remark, rendered in the same cursive script.

BUTTON MAKERS, BIRMINGHAM

ANDERTON & CALLEY,
BALDWIN, A & W,
Barnett, John,
BRATT, WILLIAM,
EGINGTON, JOHN,
HARDMAN & LEWIS,
HAWKINS & WILLIAMS & THOMAS,
Hopkins, John,
JEFFCOATE, JOSEPH,
JUKES, JOSEPH & SON,
Kettle & Son,
MADELEY, GEORGE,
MOORE, JOSEPH & CO,
PATRICK, THOMAS,
PEMBERTON, THOMAS,
PICKERING, JOHN & CO,
Pring, William,
RUDDER & LEDSAM,
RYLAND, THOMAS,
SANDERS, MARK,
SMALL, THOMAS,
THOMASON, EDWARD,
Toy, Samuel,
TURNER, JOHN,
TWIGG, CHARLES,

Published by J. Biggs, Musson, Birm. for his Magnificent Directory.

Smith, sculp.



2

BORDESLEY & DERITEND
Adjoining Birmingham -

Asley Tho. Cabinet Case Maker
BEDFORD, JAMES Cutler.
Biddle, Cope & Biddle,
 Soap Manufacturers.

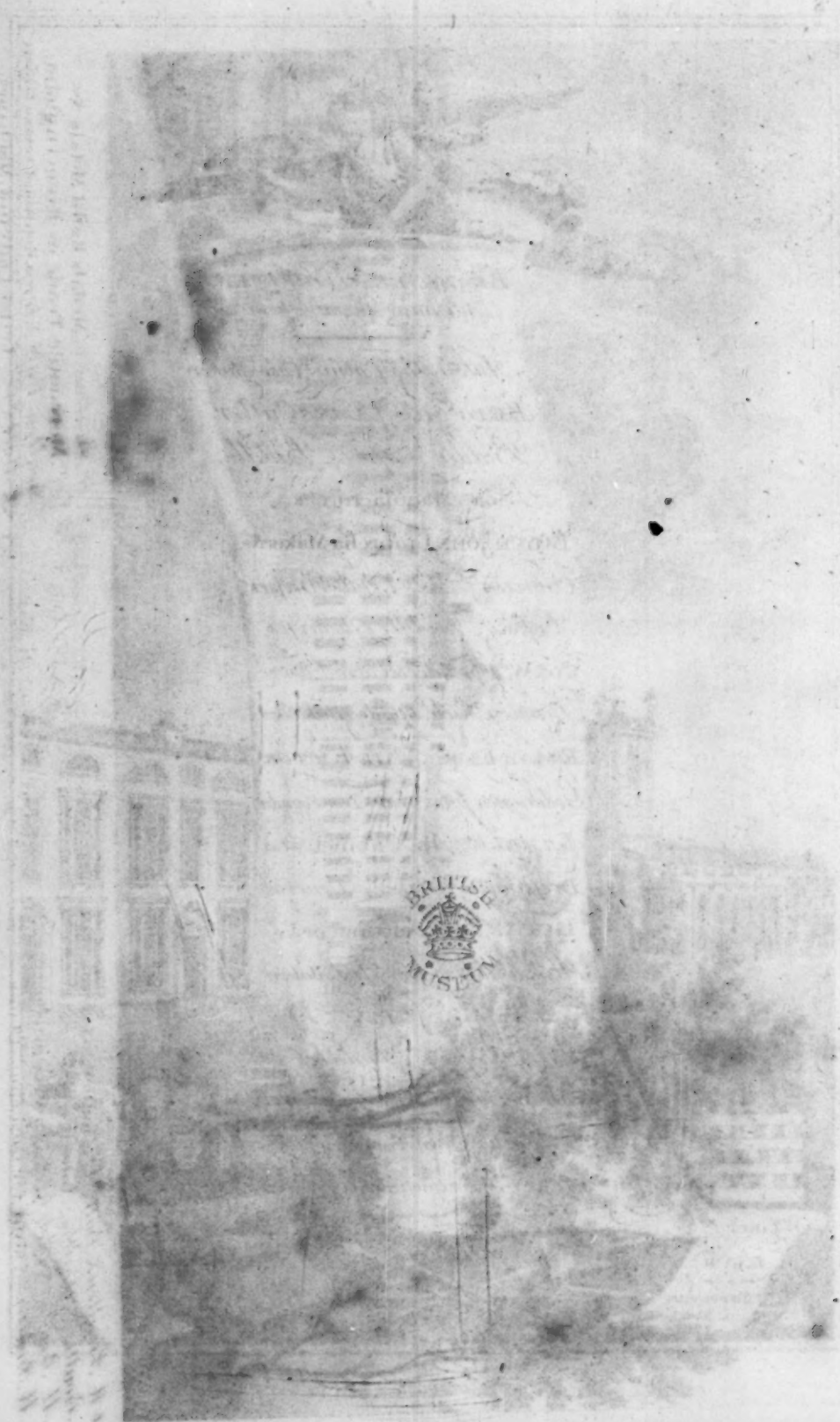
BOYCE, JOHN Umbrella-Maker &c.
COCKLE, JAMES Leather Dresser.
Cope & Biddle, Chemists.
COX, W^m Upholder & Cabinet-Maker.
Dingley Rich. Spade & Bill-Maker.
EVANS, EDW. NAIL-FACTOR.
Goddington, Jam. Brass & Iron Founder.
LAMBLEY, AS^d Cabinet and
 Dressing Case Maker in General.
LUCAS, THO^s Auctioneer &c.
Minshull Geo. Ivory Toy Maker.
TAYLOR, JOHN
Whyley, Cope & Biddle,
 Aqua-Fortis Makers.

YATES & C^o Factors, Brass Founders
 & Coffin Furniture Manufacturers.

W. JAMES
LAND
 Surveyor
 &c.

Engraved by J. B. Smith, 11, Newgate Street, Birmingham.

Published by J. B. Smith, Museum, Birmingham, for his Magnificent Directory.





M. Boulton & Watt — Buttons in General.
Boulton & Smiths — Buckles, Latchets &c.
M. Boulton & Plate Co. — Silver & Plated Goods.
M. Boulton — Mint for Government & Coin.

See page 104

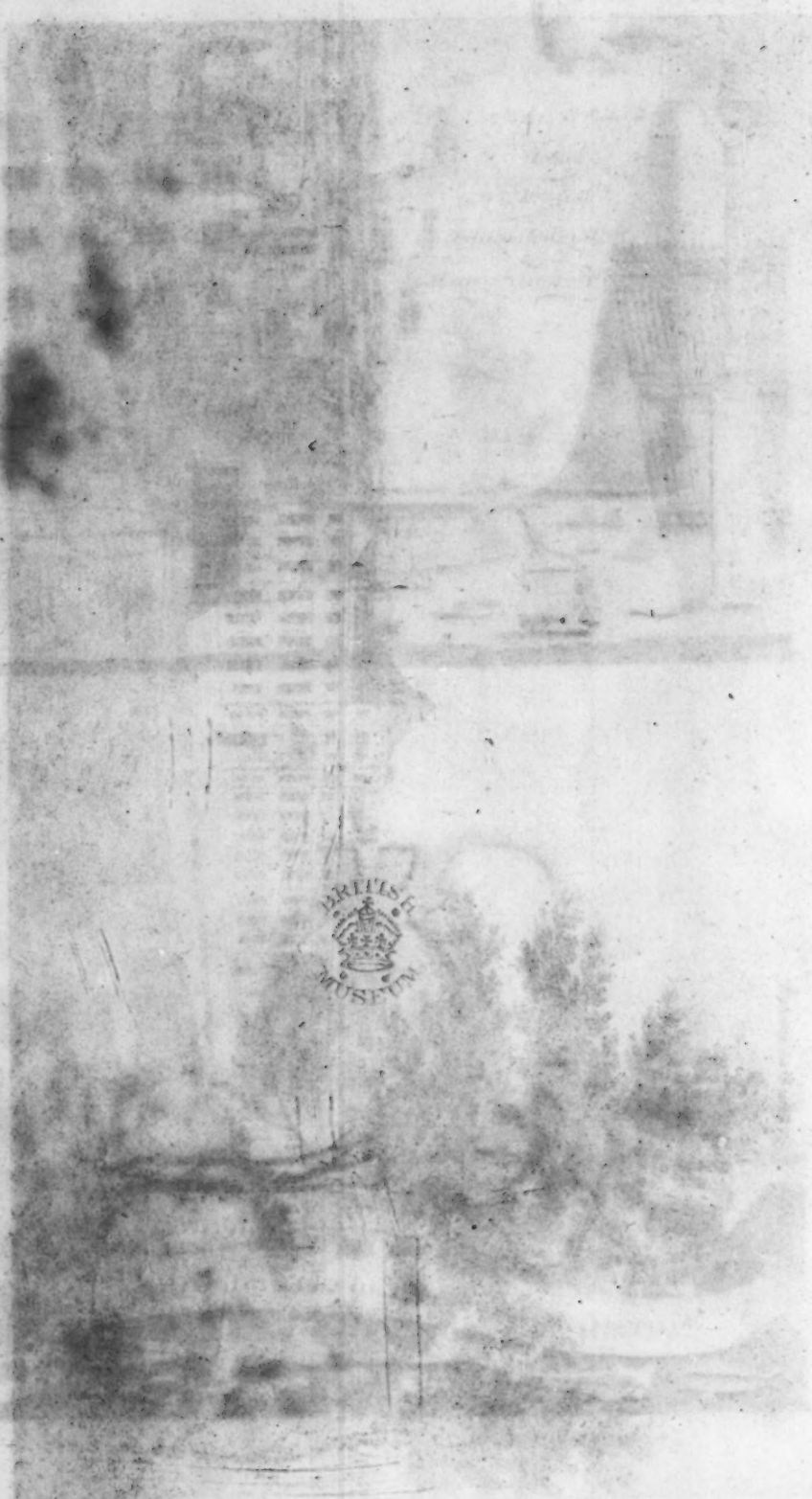
SOHO MANUFACTORY
 under the Annex'd Firms

M. Boulton — Medals Roll'd Metals &c.
D. Merrett — Trade in Birmingham.
Boulton, Watt & Sons — Iron Foundry & Steam Engines.
A. Watt & Co. — Letter Copying Machines.

Published by J. Birt, Birmingham for his Magnificent and Grand National Directory 1800.

Printed and Published by
J. G. & J. S. COLEMAN, 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM
Printed and Published by
J. G. & J. S. COLEMAN, 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

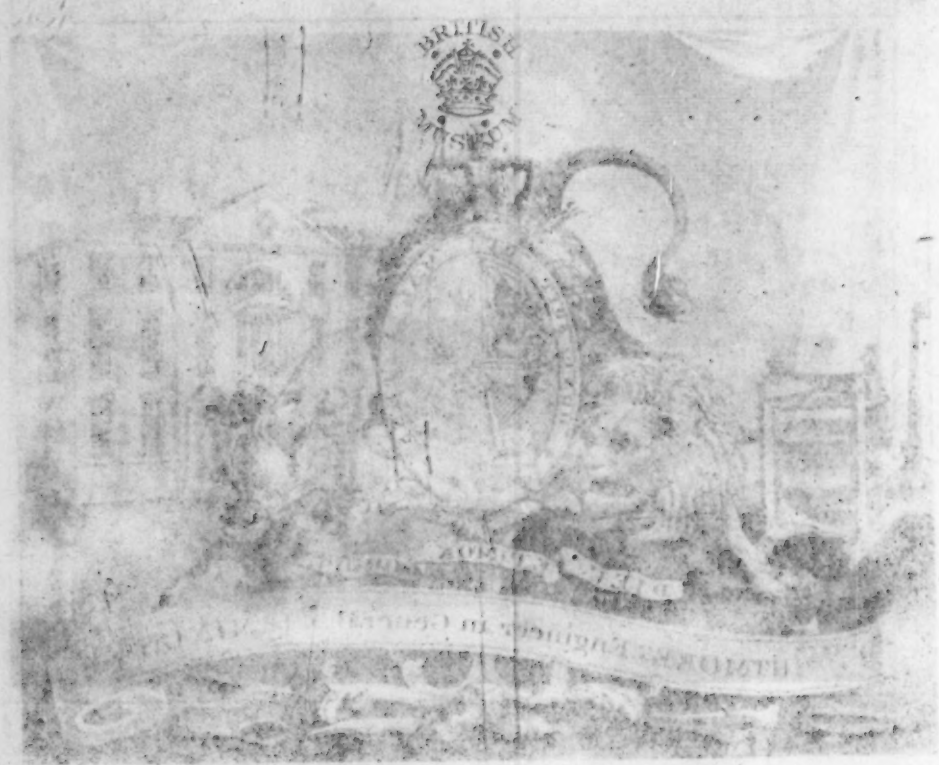
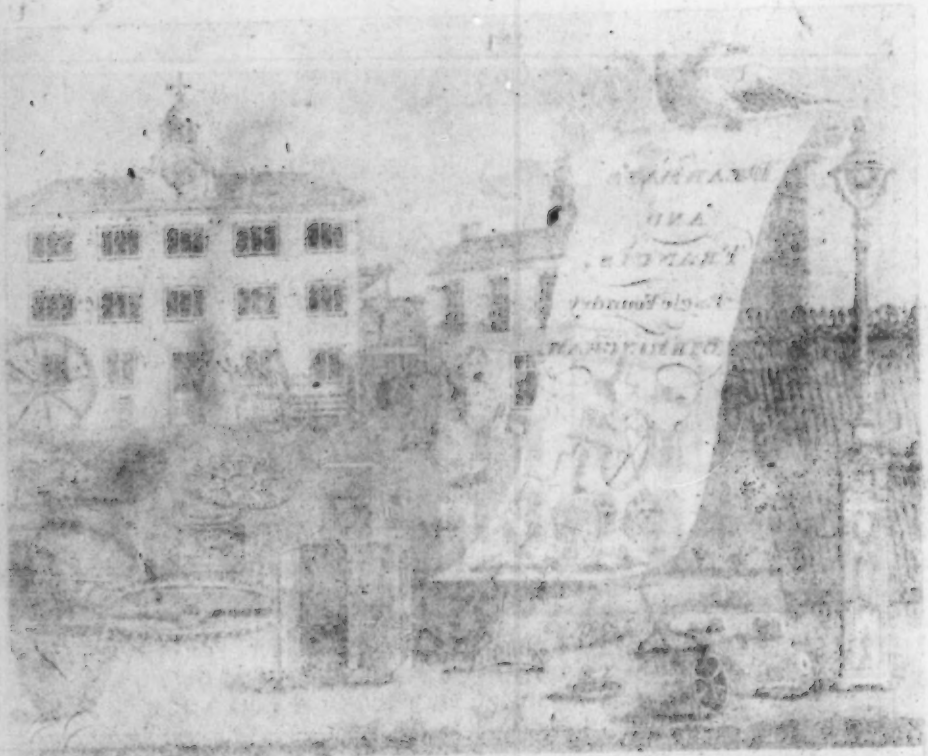


BRITISH
MUSEUM

X



Engraved by
 Published by Messrs. Moxon, Birmingham, for his Magnificent Directory.
 Also for his Grand National Register.



W



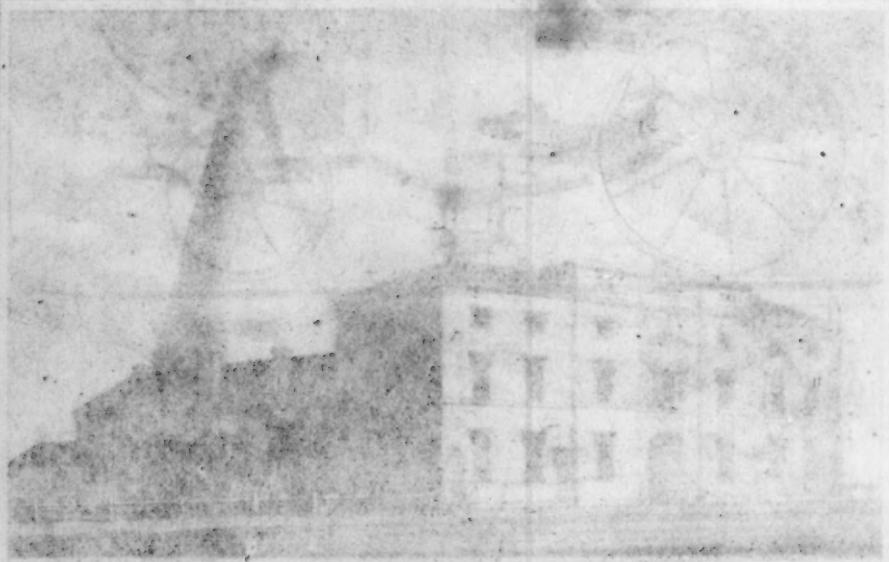
JONES, SMART & CO.
GLASS MANUFACTURERS
ASTON HILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Hollins. del.

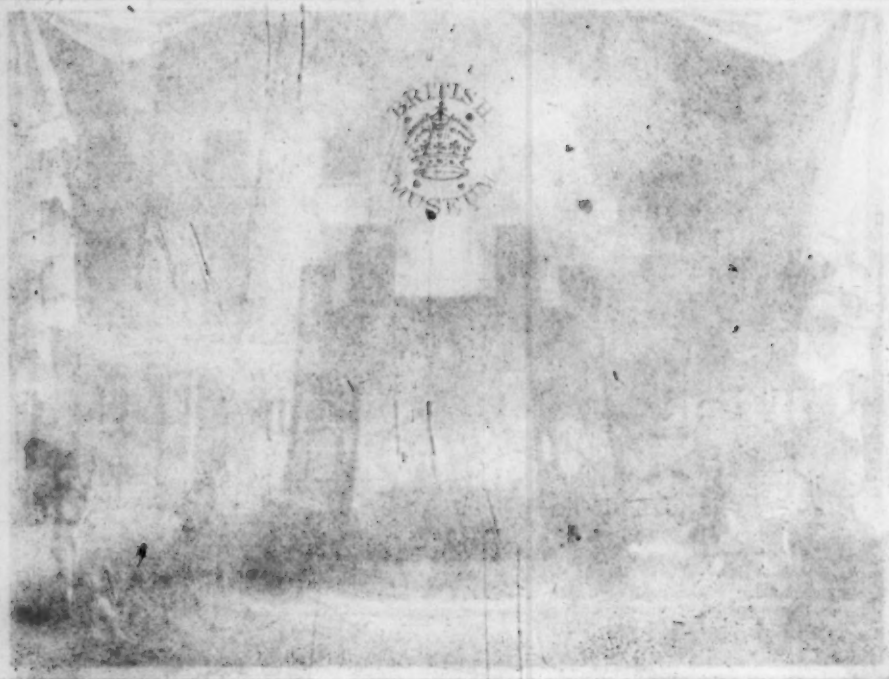
Hess. sc.



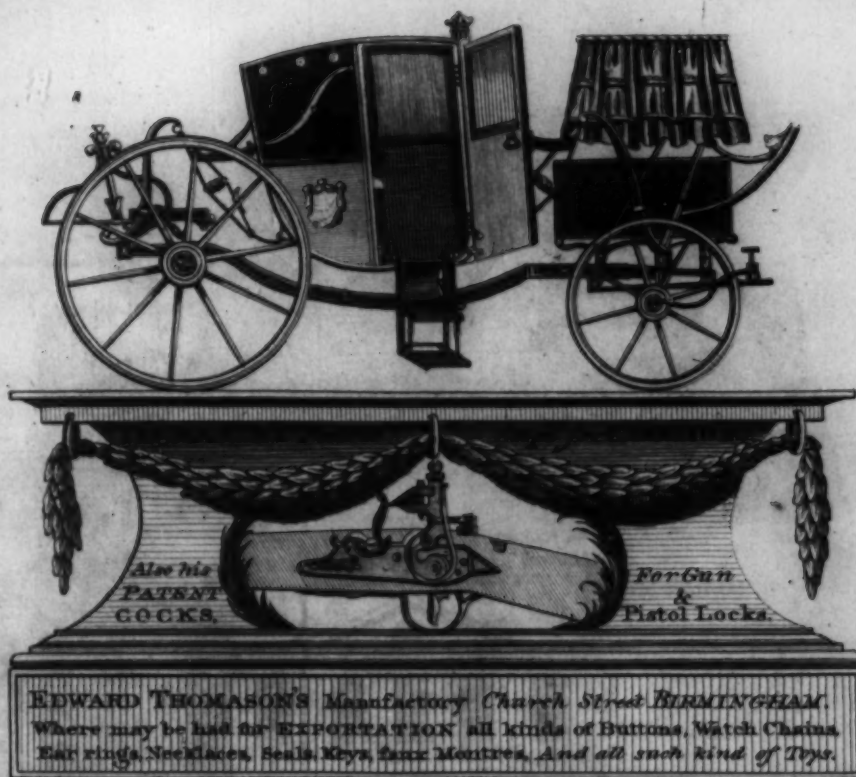
Published by J. Bisset, Museum, Birmingham,
for His Magnificent Directory & Grand National Register.



THE GREAT BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANY
LIMITED
SHEPPARDSON'S PATENT
STEAMSHIP

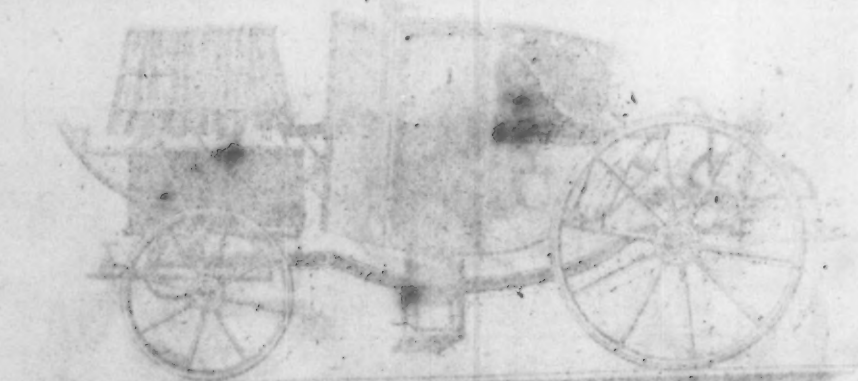


THE GREAT BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANY
LIMITED
SHEPPARDSON'S PATENT
STEAMSHIP



J. Hancock sculptor

Published by J. Bisset Museum^r Birmingham for his Magnificent and Grand National Directory 1800.



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Ben. Kingston. Esq.
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Ralph Lescroart Esq.
Will. Moilard. Esq.

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Robt. M. Lord Ainauld.
Rob. Ladbroke Esq.
M. Lushington Esq. M.P.
James Libbald. Esq.

Auditors.

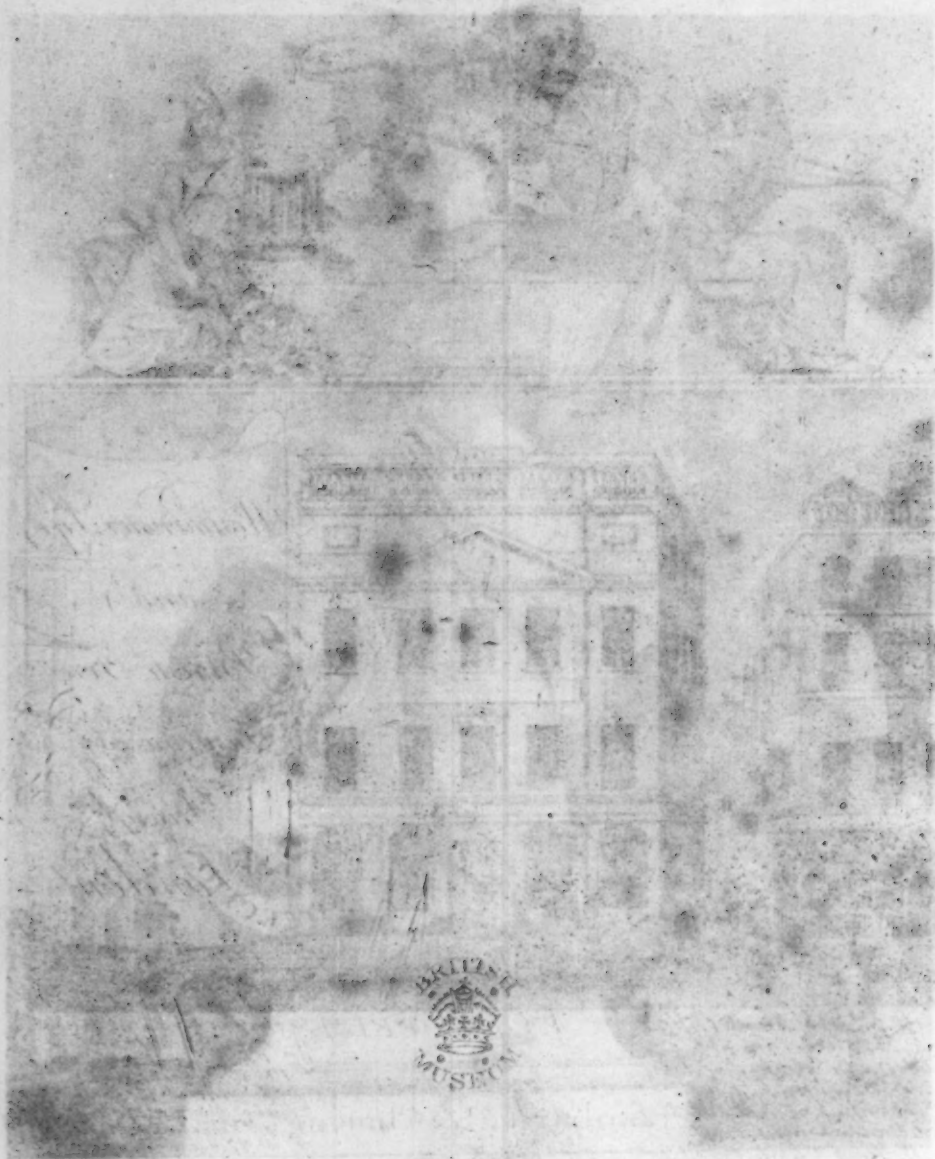
John Haver Esq.
David Thomas Esq.
Richard Williams Esq. Solicitor

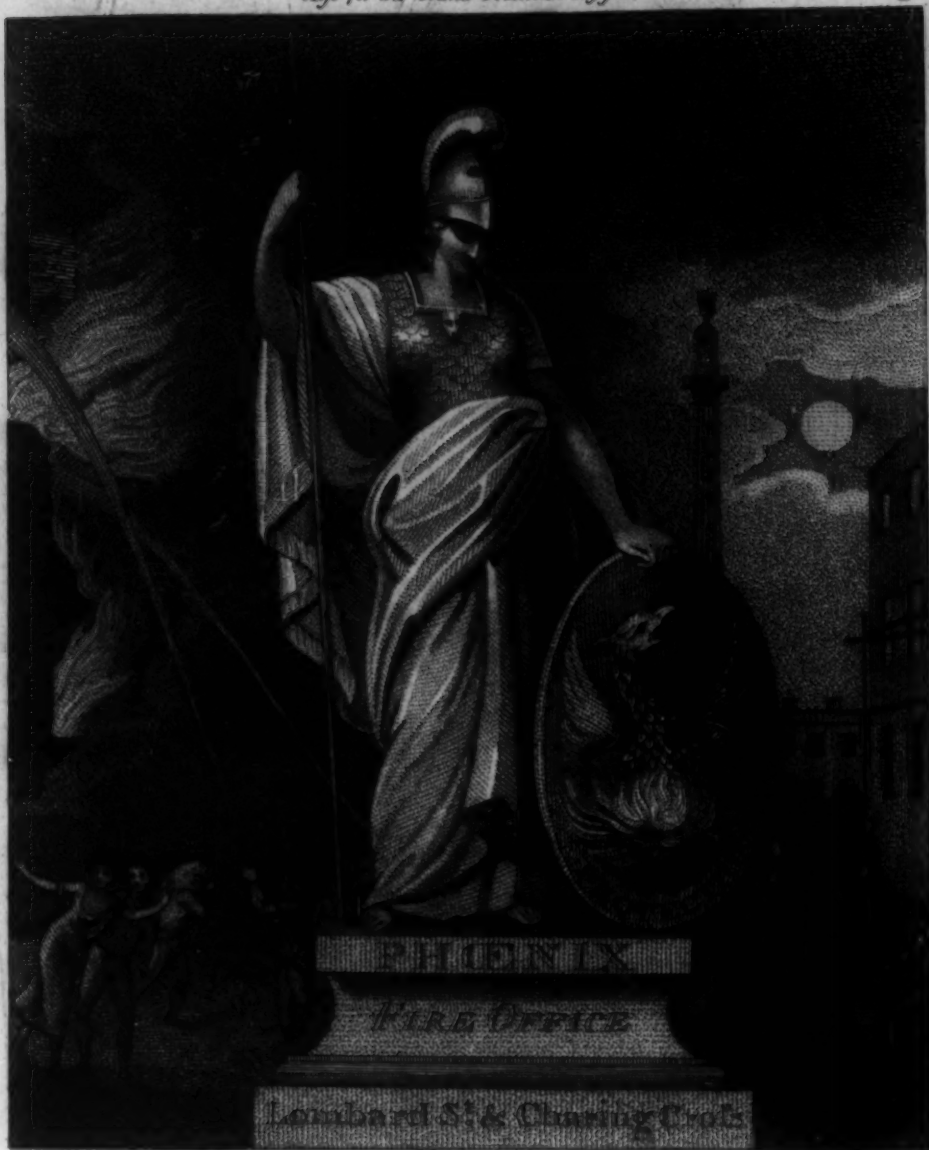


Robt. Skelton Esq.
Secretary.
to both Institutions.

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William Haver Esq.
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Will. Moilard. Esq. M.P.
John Moore Esq.
R. J. Sullivan Esq.
John Varnham Esq.
Francis Wilson Esq.
George Myle Esq.
Saml. Brooksbank Esq.
John Haver Esq.
David Thomas Esq.
Robert Wigram Esq.
Ja. Spiller Esq. Surveyor.





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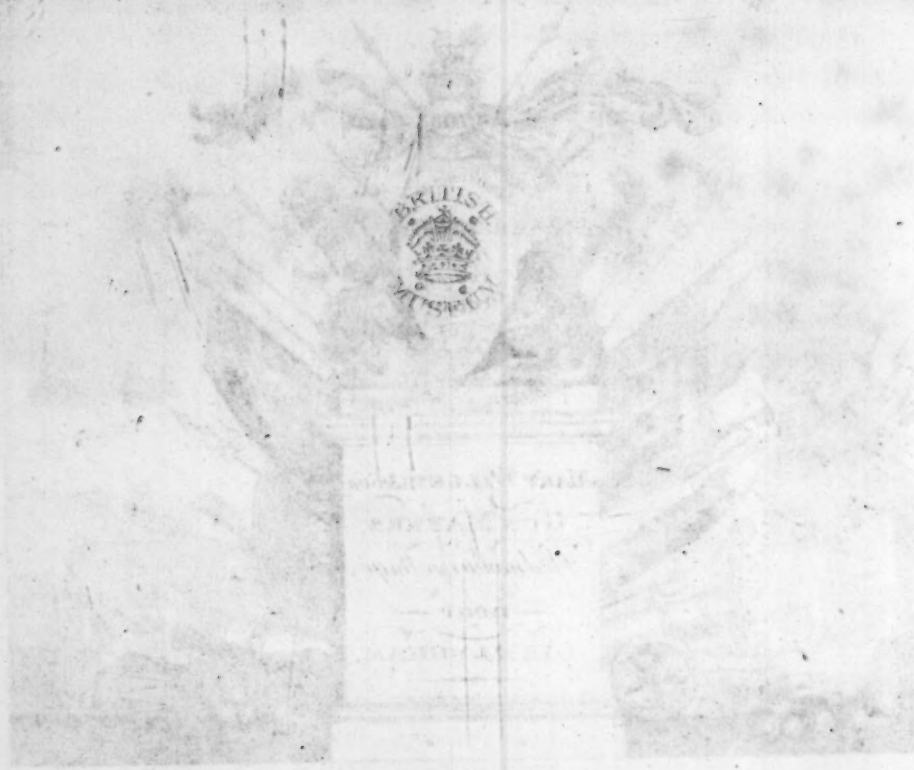
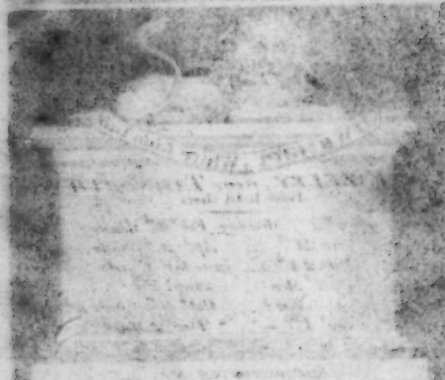
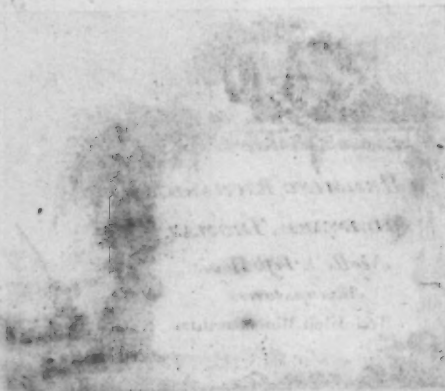
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I N D E X.

A.

See Plate

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(F) Respectable Strangers may gain free Admission to most of the Manufactories in Birmingham, by applying to the respective Proprietors.

G

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* Admittance gratis.

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W.

Waddell, W. Castle-Inn, High-street	F
Walker, William, Merchant, Congreve-street, Tin-plate and Metal Warehouse	B

Wallis and Underhill, Merchants, St. Mary's Square	.....	.....	<i>See Plate</i>	B
Watt, James, Heathfield	.....	.....		A
Watt J. and Co. Manufacturers of Copying Machines, Soho	.....			T
Ward, John, Factor, 28, Dale-end	....	....		G
Wareham, Potts and Smith, Merchants	....	....		B
Watred, J. N. W. Mercer and Draper, Bull-street	.....	....		I
Webb, James, Factor, St. Paul's Square	....	.....		G
Webb, Thos. Die Engraver, and Gilder on Steel, &c. 35, Cannon-st.				I
Webster, Richard, and Co. Brads and Iron Founders, &c. Manufacturers of Coffin-furniture, Picture-frames, &c. Moor-street	...			L
Weische, Translator of Languages, Weaman-street	....	.....		L
Welch, Startin, and Co. Merchants, Summer-row	.....	....		B
Westwood, Obadiah, Coffin-furniture, Commodes, and Picture-frame maker, Great Charles-street	....	.....		I
Wheele, Francis, Coach-maker, Lichfield-street	.....	.....		Q
Wheeler, Robert, Gun-maker, Snow-hill	.....	.....		E
Whitefield, Edward, Manufacturer of Scale-beams, Steel-yards, &c. Church-street	.....	.....		I
Whitmore, William, Engineer and Manufacturer of all Kinds of rolling and flatting Mills, Machines for weighing Barges, Boats, Waggons, &c. Engines, Lathes, Stamps, Presses and Lancashire Watch-tools, &c.	....	.....		U
Whyley, Cope and Biddle, Aquæ-fortis Makers, Deritend	....			S
Willets, Thomas, Die Sinker, Great Charles-street	....	....		J
Wilkinson, Joshua, Auctioneer and Appraiser, &c. Newhall-street				I
Wilkes, Thomas, Engine Cutter, &c. 53, Snowhill	.....	.....		P
Wilson, James, Clock Dial Japanner	...	.....		O
Wilson, Thomas, Proprietor of the improved Antiscorbutic Drops, &c. No. 9, Worcester-street	.....	....		I
Wood, Thos. Stationer, Bookseller, Medicine-vender, &c. High-st.				D

Wood, William, Factor, Bath-street	See Plate
	G
Wooller, Matthew, Clock and Weather-glass Maker, 51, Edgbaston-st.	I
Woolley, James, and Co. Sword Manufacturers, Edmund-street ...	K
Wyatt, John, Woollen-draper, &c. New-street	C
Wyer, Samuel, Dog-Inn, Spiceal-street	F
Wynn, Wm. and Co. Buckle and Steel Toy-makers, Caroline-street	N

Y.

Yates and Co. Brass-founders, and Coffin-furniture Manufacturers, Platers, Factors, Looking-glass and Picture Frame-makers, Deritend	G L S
Yates, Thos. Buckle Stock-sinker and Core-mould Maker, Colehill-st.	Q

Not delivered in Time.

Reece, John, Dealer in Tea and Spice, Groceries, &c. No. 6, High-street, Succesor to Miss Mansells	D
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There are daily Conveyances from Birmingham to all Parts of the Kingdom, though the following are the only Communications sent.

John Twiss's Manchester, Liverpool, and North Waggon, arrive at his Warehouse in Birmingham every Wednesday and Saturday Mornings, and return the same Evenings.

William Phillips's London Waggon, arrives at his Warehouse, at the Red Lion Inn, Digbeth, Birmingham, every Tuesday; returns Wednesday about Noon, to the George Inn, Snowhill, London.

Those Gentlemen whose Names were sent too late for Insertion, will appear either in the Grand National Directory and Universal Register, or in an Appendix to the present Work.



IDEAL INFERENCE.



THIS Book, perhaps, may soon its way explore,
And find a welcome, on each FOREIGN shore ;
Perhaps thro' EUROPE may, in time, be spread,
Or by the tawny AFRICAN be read :

Its novelty may strike, perhaps it may,
In time, reach BORNEO, PEKIN, or BOMBAY ;
At either INDIA, may, perhaps, be found,
Or at KAMSCHATKA seen, or NOOTKA SOUND.

Ev'n KINGS and PRINCES, here may deign to look,
Or smiles of BRITISH BEAUTIES grace the book :
My LEARNED COUNTRYMEN * and SAGES rare,
The whole design, perhaps, may scan with care ;
And whilst each trophied emblem they peruse,
May feel half tempted to forgive the Muse.
Nay, Foreign MERCHANTS, when they *this* look o'er,
To view this PLACE, may quit their Native Shore :
And when ' The Toy Shop of the World' they see,
May own (O ! vain surmise) '*twas all thro' me !*

In regions yet unknown, or lands remote,
The Natives, thus, may hear of VULCAN's spot ;
And whilst, with wonder, they each print survey,
Some information of the Arts convey ;

* In Scotia.

For whilst, with rapture fraught, they this explore,
 And view such sights as ne'er were seen before,
 Some CIRCUMNAVIGATORS may, ere long,
 Hear BIRMINGHAM extoll'd in SAVAGE SONG;
 And when some progress in the ARTS they've made,
 Can tell who form'd the HOE, the AXE, the SPADE;
 Or when their great utility they feel,
 And learn the use of IRON and of STEEL,
 In extacy, may cry, enrapt with wonder,
 ' Dese English make de GUNS dat roar like tunder;
 ' De SWORD, de LANCE, de HATCHET and de SPEAR,
 ' All dat be grand, and BIR—MING—HAM, be dere.'
 And when, in mirrors, they themselves behold,
 Drefs'd out with amber beads, with pearls or gold,
 With varnish'd cheeks, of ochre, or red clay,
 Like Chimney Sweeps, deck'd out on first of May,
 With bracelets for their THIGHS, their ARMS, their TOES,
 Or gaudy pendants for their EARS or NOSE;
 Each martial CHIEF, each sable colour'd Squaw,
 Won't cry, in *broken* French, ' *Me nong-tong paw*,†
 But cry, in *broken* English, ' O, Manne,
 ' *Dat Englan be grand place—me go an zee.*'

† A Corruption of ' Je ne vous entends pas.' i. e. I do not understand you.

THE END.

SWINNEY & HAWKINS, Printers,
 No. 75, High-street,
 Birmingham.



TO THE PUBLIC.

THE very magnificent mode J. B. has adopted to extend the circulation of the respective addresses he has been honored with, having received the sanction and approbation of the Encouragers of the Liberal Arts, and the many respectable Gentlemen whose names will appear in the work, he requests them to accept his sincere thanks for the confidence they have manifested; and he hopes, in the execution of the design, he has fully justified the opinion they entertained, that it would be both useful, elegant, and ornamental.—Yet, in submitting it to the Public, he feels it incumbent on him to state to them the reason why, ALL the inhabitants were not inserted, fearing, otherwise, they may imagine it a partial undertaking.—In so doing he thinks it requisite to lay before them, extracts from the different Advertisements he has occasionally inserted in the public newspapers, as well as some thousands of hand-bills, which will clearly evince that he was actuated by no other motive than to promote the interests of the Town and Trade of Birmingham, and, in a commercial point of view, extend the manufactories of the place.

COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT, JULY 16, 1799.

“ J. BISSET takes the liberty of informing the Public, that having a little poem in contemplation, descriptive of the manufactories, and other curiosities, to be seen in and about Birmingham, intended chiefly for the use of strangers or travellers, who occasionally visit the Town, and who are often anxious to gain permission to see the most noted manufactories of the place—he (with all due deference) submits for their consideration the propriety of annexing a few elegant and appropriate COPPER PLATES, containing the name, profession or place of residence of any gentleman, merchant, tradesman, or manufacturer, who may wish to be more generally known. Insertion of names 10s. 6d. each.

“ J. B. feels every sentiment of gratitude for favors received; but solicits no patronage to his present undertaking, conscious that if it is deserving of notice, it will receive it from a discerning public;—and as he does it with no view of pecuniary advantage, but a desire of promoting the interest of individuals in particular, and the town in general, hopes he will be excused making *personal* application to any one, though all communications, bearing real signatures, will be strictly attended to.

“ A nominal Concatenation, alphabetically arranged, and engraved in a superb manner, will supersede the necessity of gentlemen, &c. issuing their own cards, as, by this means, their names will be more generally known, in conjunction with the

ADVERTISEMENT.

most respectable inhabitants of the place; and being concentered in one grand and general focus, they will not be thrown aside like the generality of Cards, but become an object of curiosity, and will, doubtless, be sought after with avidity, by all patronizers of the Liberal Arts.

"Any gentleman wishing to find his own Plate, may be accommodated with a place, free of expence; or if any gentleman can suggest an improvement in the present undertaking, or is willing to take upon himself the guidance and direction of the whole, J. B. will freely relinquish his design, and furnish him (*gratis*) with every requisite in his power to accomplish his purpose.—If not, he will do the best in his power to make the work worthy the attention of the Public, or of those Travellers or Strangers for whom it is particularly intended."

The Author declined taking any Subscriptions for the Poem, (though often solicited) as he wished the Public to judge for themselves; and when the work appeared, either to purchase it or not, as their inclination might lead them.

In subsequent advertisements, J. B. gave the Public to understand, that, as several MERCHANTS, FACTORS, and other GENTLEMEN, &c. might have probably been on journies, he would extend the time of receiving names till the end of November; and as it was his wish to make it as complete as possible, another advertisement was issued, wherein he offered to give an account of all the coaches, waggons, carts, boats, or barges, setting out from, or arriving in Birmingham, (free of expence,) if the Proprietors would favor him with lists for that purpose. The Reader will perceive how many availed themselves of the opportunity; and the impartial Public will clearly see, that all that was possible to be done for their satisfaction and information was adopted; and nothing left undone to make it as acceptable as the brevity of the work would allow.

Apprehensive that the expence of engraving, &c. might preclude many ingenious Artists, Mechanics, &c. from having their Names inserted, repeated advertisements, hand bills, &c. were issued, offering *free admission* to whoever would apply; and, anxious to lay the Work before the Public in as superb a style as possible, he has spared no pains or expence in the execution of the designs, and all the ENGRAVERS had strict orders "To finish their Plates as well as they could, and charge what Price they pleased."

The inadequacy of the Author, in attempting the Poem which accompanies the Directory, he trusts, is the only Apology he has to make to the Public; but, as it was written with a desire to oblige, he hopes it will plead a sufficient excuse; relying on this, he remains, with great sincerity and respect,

Their most obedient servant,

MUSEUM, BIRMINGHAM.

J. B.

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